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35p

Brooke breakthrough: talks imminent

Unionists agree to negotiate with Dublin

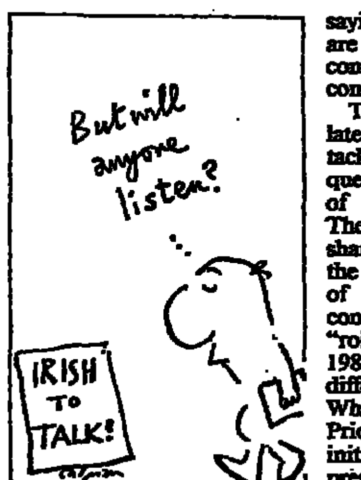
By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

ULSTER Unionist leaders yesterday agreed to join in talks with nationalists and the Dublin government, setting the scene for the first formal initiative on Northern Ireland for a decade.

Peter Brooke, the Northern Ireland secretary who in 14 months of negotiation has always said that formal talks were a possibility rather than a probability, will outline his proposals for the discussions to the Commons today or tomorrow. The talks may begin next month.

Mr Brooke had set out his proposals in a document circulated to the four main political parties in the province, excluding Sinn Fein, and the British and Irish governments. The Unionists were the last to respond, with a one-line statement issued by James Molyneaux and Ian Paisley yesterday, saying: "With the process of clarification complete, we have now conveyed a positive response to the secretary of state."

This means that Unionists and the Dublin administration may meet formally for the first time since the Sunningdale conference of 1973. Mr Brooke envisages three sets of simultaneous talks in London, Dublin and Belfast, during which he will attempt to reach a consensus that would lead to a drawing down of direct rule. The secretary of state hopes to establish some form of devolved administration in Northern Ireland, involving power sharing and a recognition of the Irish government's "legitimate interest" in the province's affairs.


But will anyone listen?
IRISH TO TALK!

Simply by persuading all the parties to agree to the talks, Mr Brooke has exceeded many people's expectations. Seamus Mallon, the Social Democratic and Labour Party deputy leader, said the people of Northern Ireland were now seeing the beginning of the end of the tunnel. He hoped that the initiative could herald an end to political instablility and violence. The Alliance party's John Alderdice, said: "It has been extraordinarily difficult to get this far, but this is only the first hurdle. There will be major difficulties and we have a mountain to climb to get into negotiations."

Kevin McNamara, Labour's Northern Ireland spokesman, congratulated Mr Brooke on a substantial breakthrough and on his tenacious handling of the negotiations, saying: "The fact that people are prepared to sit down to consider an agenda is a considerable step forward."

The Brooke initiative is the latest in a series of attempts to tackle the Northern Ireland question since the dissolution of Stormont 19 years ago. These included the power-sharing executive of 1973-4, the constitutional convention of 1975-6, the round-table conference of 1980 and the "rolling devolution" after 1982. Mr Brooke's approach differs from those of William Whitelaw in 1972 and James Prior ten years later in that his initiative offers no precise prescription of how its objectives might be met, but rather sets the scene for each party to submit proposals in the hope of finding some agreement.

Mr Brooke's painstaking diplomacy has brought the process this far even though some of those directly participating in his series of consultations privately predicted certain failure.

His switch from the Conservative party chairmanship to the Northern Ireland Office in 1989 was regarded by some as a punishment for the Tories' disastrous showing in the European elections. But he quickly demonstrated a better understanding than many of his predecessors of the intricacies of Ulster politics, winning praise from both Sinn Fein and Mr Paisley's Democratic Unionists.

After several months of preparatory meetings with party leaders — and a controversial remark about a future government's readiness to talk to Sinn Fein — Mr Brooke was prepared by January last year to launch his initiative. Since then, he has overseen the testing of structures and ideas drawn up by civil servants, arguing points with all parties in a complex and, at times, tedious process requiring scores of meetings.

Leading article, page 13

Facing charges: Derek Hatton leaving home yesterday

Saddam's planes 'bombing rebels in Kirkuk'

By MICHAEL THEODOULOU
IN NICOSIA

IRAQI forces loyal to President Saddam Hussein made a desperate attempt to win back the northern rebel-held city of Kirkuk yesterday by bombing it from aircraft and helicopters, according to an Iraqi Kurdish group which called for allied military support.

If true, Saddam risked involving the Americans, who have warned him against flying fixed-wing aircraft and last week shot down two Iraqi warplanes which they say flew in violation of the provisional Gulf ceasefire. But Saddam needs to win back Kirkuk, a key city in an area that produces more than a quarter of the country's oil.

In Damascus, the Patriotic *Union of Kurdistan said* many people were killed in an early morning air raid on Kirkuk when two jet fighters and five helicopters bombed and strafed the city. The group said Kurdish fighters shot down one of the helicopters.

Kurdish rebels said Saddam's forces have launched several unsuccessful land and air strikes against the city in recent days and last week *claimed children* were being thrown from helicopters as part of the campaign of terror. Many opposition groups yesterday accused Saddam of using brutal methods to crush the rebellion and highlighted the suffering of civilians in an apparent attempt to win international sympathy and support for their cause.

They claim government forces used helicopters to spray demonstrators with phosphoric acid in the northern city of Mosul and in the southern town of Amarah.

The United States, whose Awacs surveillance planes fly *over Iraq 24 hours a day, has* said it has no evidence that Saddam's forces have used chemical weapons. But Turkish reporters across the border in northern Iraq on Sunday said that they saw Kurds with burns caused by napalm.

The Iranian news agency, IRNA, spoke of a "barbarous massacre" in Basra where it claims women and children were being used as human *shields* and men, aged between 15 and 40, were being summarily executed.

Despite this, the agency denied Saddam's claim that the rebellion in the mainly *Shia south had been crushed* and insisted that four southern cities, including the centre of Basra, were in rebel hands. The other towns were named as Nasiriyah, Amarah and Tanumah.

To boost their ranks, Kurdish groups have reportedly asked the Saudi military to hand over an estimated 63,000 *Iraqi Gulf prisoners* of war to them rather than to the Baghdad government.

Iran's parliament announced its support for the insurgence, but implied it will remain strictly moral and humanitarian in nature.

But in a byzantine twist, an Iraqi-based Iranian opposition group accused Tehran of sending members of the Revolutionary Guard into Iraq to attack its bases under cover of the uprising against Saddam. The People's Mujahidin said they had also launched a counter-offensive early yesterday morning along 100-mile front on the Iran-Iraq border north of the Iraqi town of Khanaqin and Jalula. The mujahidin, an underground movement, said its forces repelled an attack on their position north of Jalula on Sunday.

Dictator's billions, page 10
Troops re-equipped, page 10

Besieged on all sides in a Kuwait ghetto

The Gulf war has given Kuwaitis an excuse to cleanse their country of foreign workers who were becoming a little too powerful. Kate Muir reports

What better way to begin the obliteration of a people than by blacking out the road signs which lead to its home district? Hawalli, the Palestinian district of Kuwait City, becomes harder to find each day. And locating Hawalli is not the same as entering it, because its access roads are blocked with concrete slabs and wrecked cars.

There seems to be only one entrance, through barriers into the guns of teenage Kuwaitis, who may or may not be soldiers, but certainly want to check credentials. Few Palestinians leave Hawalli now. Few outsiders enter. Once a suburb, it is now a ghetto.

The Palestinians' own diaspora has left about 400,000 living in Kuwait. Like the Jews in Europe, they provided the Kuwaitis with a thinking class — doctors, engineers, lawyers and businessmen. Now, because a few collaborated with the Iraqis, many are being punished.

About half the Palestinians left Kuwait during the war, and are finding it almost impossible to get back. Decades of residence are of little significance to border guards. Even Palestinian soldiers or prisoners of war who fought to free Kuwait find that does not guarantee them the right to return. The war has provided a convenient excuse for the Kuwaitis to cleanse their country of foreign workers who were becoming a little too permanent, a little too powerful.

Those who remained in Kuwait throughout the occupation are now under a cloud of suspicion. As one Kuwaiti general, who left the country for a safe haven on August 2, said: "We dare not trust any Palestinian."

That much is clear from the numbers being beaten up, tortured or detained in the same police cells used for similar purposes by the Iraqis. According to a report from the human rights organisation, Middle East Watch, over 2,000 Palestinians and other minorities have been detained, and records from mortuaries, graveyards and hospitals show around 40 deaths.

There is no need to rely on human rights reports for information, which can be gained simply by walking into Hawalli at night, and waiting for a crowd to form. Because the city has almost no electricity, the men are identifiable only by their cigarettes glowing in the dark, and emerge out of doorways to talk, many in fluent English. One has a brother taken away by two soldiers at a roadblock, and returned two days later with fractures and bruises. Another can show electric burn marks on his ears.

With lanterns, they lead the way into a flat, scene of the latest disappearance. Heyam Mahmood's husband went to fill cans at the water point at noon. It is now 10 pm and he has not returned. The family are too scared to go to a police station to inquire, in case they, too, are interrogated.

Ironically, Mrs Mahmood, aged 35, was one of the first to suffer at the hands of the Iraqis. She had given birth to twins a few days before the invasion, and her first sight of the Iraqis was when they told her doctor to take her daughter, Ola, from the oxygen tent.

Ola survived with her twin, Abdurahman, but Mrs Mahmood does not have enough breast milk for two, and a city with no water is unlikely to have formula milk.

The Palestinians feel besieged. Somehow there are fewer water tankers coming to Hawalli than the rest of the city. The queues are longer for staple food distributed by the Kuwaitis. "They distributed 1,000 loaves yesterday, and 45,000 people live in this area," said one older man. "Then they started giving some people three each."

Other minorities are having difficulties. A Filipino, driving tank transporters for the British army, had his hand ripped apart at the roadside by a grenade detonator. He begged people not to take him to a Kuwaiti hospital. "I will not be safe there. Take me to the British or American military hospital."

He did not get the choice. His hand was amputated immediately. He believes it could have been reconstructed. But he was the wrong race.

Lawson accuses ministers of lacking will to govern

By ROBIN OAKLEY AND NICHOLAS WOOD

NIGEL Lawson, the former Chancellor, last night intensified the government's growing difficulties by accusing ministers of lacking the will to govern. The attack shocked Conservative MPs, and boosted the credibility of Labour's efforts to destroy John Major's popularity by branding him a dithering and indecisive prime minister.

Mr Major, who spent part of yesterday with senior ministers at Chequers seeking new policy options, is expected by his backbenchers to respond strongly to his critics in tomorrow's no-confidence motion, tabled by Labour, in the Commons. Conservative MPs are agitated by the effectiveness of Labour's recent attacks in undermining the prime minister, its resumed lead in the opinion polls, and the growing uncertainty about government's plans for the replacement of the poll tax.

Mr Lawson, a long-time opponent of the poll tax who now wants local taxation scrapped altogether, went for the heart of the government's strategy in escaping from the poll-tax quagmire when he *ridiculed* the postponement of the decision on the balance between local taxation of residents and property in its new scheme. He said on the last day of the Budget debate: "To govern *is to choose*". He added: "To appear to be unable to choose is to appear to be unable to govern."

If he had consulted about the tax changes he made as Chancellor, then not one would have been possible to enact. Mr Lawson declared: "The government is in danger of giving consultation a bad name." His message to stop consulting and start deciding amplified the growing *calls* from Tory backbenches for ministers to end the confusion about the poll tax.

The uncertainty deepened at the weekend when Norman *Lamont, the Chancellor,* said the new tax would continue the poll tax principle that everybody contributed something to local taxation, while Michael Heseltine, the environment secretary, insisted that it was not the poll tax under another guise.

Mr Lawson, who did not vote for Mr Major in the leadership election, told MPs that it was unclear whether property or people would predominate in the proposed new tax. There was a risk of the local government review upheaval ending absurdly with "son of poll tax".

Tory MPs are worried that everyone is assuming the review will end with the result they least want.

It emerged yesterday from sources close to Mr Heseltine that the consultation document *to be issued after Easter* will float virtually every option from a tax weighted heavily towards property values, with a tiny head tax bolted on, to the precise opposite of that.

Lawson's warning, page 8

Hatton is accused of fraud plot

By RONALD FAUX

DEREK Hatton, the former Militant deputy leader of Liverpool city council, was yesterday charged on three counts of conspiracy to defraud by officers of Merseyside police engaged in Operation Cheetah, an investigation into alleged municipal fraud that has led to the arrest of 23 people.

Mr Hatton, aged 43, who ran a public relations and property consultancy in Liverpool after his time on the council, was charged when he answered to police bail at the Liverpool fraud squad headquarters. Charged with him were John Monk, his tailor, Hannah Folan, a Liverpool councillor, and John Nelson, a former councillor. All were released on bail to appear at Liverpool city magistrates court on July 30.

Afterwards, Mr Hatton said: "I have never ever conspired to defraud ratepayers in this city and never would, and I will certainly *prove my innocence.*"

Police said charges related to an enquiry about car parks.

Labrador bows to Terrier as Britain's top dog

By ALICE THOMSON

THE Yorkshire Terrier has just toppled the old favourite the Labrador as Britain's most popular pedigree dog. Two million out of Britain's eight million dogs are registered as pedigree with the Kennel Club and some 280,000 puppies were signed on last year. Most breeds managed to hold their position in the 1990 elite dog table with the exception of the formidable Rottweiler and Dobermann. The Rottweiler this year lost its status as the "macho male" accessory and has sunk from 9th to 16th place, the Dobermann has dropped from 12th to 8th place.

The most popular name for registered dogs in the first three months of this year was Stormin' Norman. Ian Logan, registrar for the club, said: "Names always depend on what's topical. At the moment we've been inundated by Scud Missiles, Patriot Warriors and we've even had Saddam Husseins. We've just registered an Apache Gunship and a Desert Rat. There are whole litters named after tanks."

Once a name has been used in a breed it cannot be chosen again. There are 160 registered breeds, so there can only be 160 registered Stormin' Normans. "Names exhaust themselves pretty quickly, so there's always a rush but it is strictly first come, first served," Mr Logan said.

"Last year it was Berlin Wall and when Lady Diana was married, we filled up our quota of Princess Dianas in a couple of days."

For the dog who has everything, a new scheme has been set up to ensure that even in sickness it will be well-catered for. The Kennel Club yesterday launched a health care plan exclusively for registered dogs, having found concerned that only 6 per cent of these carefully nurtured pedigrees are insured.

The new "Bupa for dogs" will cover £1,500 in veterinary fees which in some cases now cost as much as fees for human operations. Lottie, a five-year-old pedigree Cocker Spaniel was recently given a life-saving two-hour operation when she was fitted with the first second-hand human pacemaker. The whole operation cost her owners more than £800.

Insured dogs will be able to take advantage of regular check-ups, vaccinations and wormings. Their owners will be able to seek advise on feeding and dietary supplementation, grooming and coat care, behaviour problems and dental care.

The premium is £49.95 and if a dog goes missing or is stolen, the owner can ask for £500 to help them search for their beloved dog or charge up to £500 for a replacement for their affections

TOP 20 BREEDS

1 Yorkshire Terrier	25,665
2 Retriever (Labrador)	25,456
3 German Shepherd	18,908
4 W. Highland White	18,688
5 Cavalier K. Charles	16,323
6 Golden Retriever	15,983
7 Cocker Spaniel	12,866
8 English Springer	11,349
9 Staffs Bull Terrier	7,609
10 Boxer	6,949
11 Shih Tzu	4,603
12 Collie (Rough)	4,570
13 Shetland Sheepdog	4,071
14 Cairn Terrier	3,980
15 Poodle (Toy)	3,976
16 Rottweiler	3,597
17 Lhasa Apso	3,141
18 Dobermann	3,097
19 Bull Terrier	2,647
20 Old English Sheepdog	2,520

● Figures are the numbers registered last year as pedigree dogs by the Kennel Club.

HOME OF GOOD WRITING

FASHION

Liz Smith on Nicole Farhi, whose practical and stylish clothes have earned her a British Design Award *Page 16*

IMAGE

Joe Joseph looks at John Major and wonders if the image-makers are starting to get to him — and if not, why not? *Page 2*

HUMOUR

Alan Coren and a few like-minded polite people are planning to mount a mild attack against the poll tax — if that is all right with you **Page 12**

INSIDE

Arafat offer

Yassir Arafat, the Palestinian leader, has made an apparent territorial concession to Israel which his office describes as substantial..........Page 10

Trollope corner

Trollope is now "odds on" to join Chaucer, Shakespeare and Dickens in Poets Corner, according to Dr Richard Mortimer, Keeper of Muniments at Westminster abbey..........Page 22

Sharpe call-up

Lee Sharpe, the Manchester United winger voted Young Player of the Year by his fellow professionals on Sunday, was called up to the England squad for the European *Championship qualifying* game with Ireland at Wembley tomorrow .. Page 38

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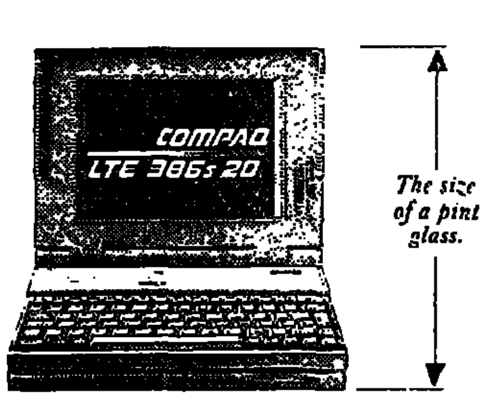
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T 26/5

Who would change the image of the 'plug-ugly' prime minister?

By JOE JOSEPH

ONCE it has become the talk of Westminster that you tuck your shirt into your underwear, you need either a thick skin, an image consultant, or the energy to shake off paparazzi sneaking snaps of your exposed Y-front waistband. John Major has chosen thick skin and a hunch that his common touch, his Brixton boyhood and his "Cripes, look at me, mum!" manner will see him through the polls.

A slight change in delivery during a weekend speech at Southport sparked talk that the man who boasted that "I shall be the same plug-ugly that I always was", that "people will have to take me as I am", that "the image-makers will not find me under their tutelage" had been nobbled by the media massagers. "It's news to me if he has," says Edward Pearce, author of a new biography, *The Quiet Rise of John Major*. "It's dead against the grain of the man." It seems that Mr Major just had throat problems.

Mr Major has never been short of confidants and cab drivers eager to tell him that he looks more like the man who hands out the lapel badges to conference delegates rather than the man who makes the speeches, that although he wears pricey Chester Barrie suits he looks like *Man at C&A*, that grey is not a designer colour when describing cheek flesh, and that while saying "wunt" instead of "want" might be diverting in a child, it is disconcerting in a man who may wunt to do a lot of things as prime minister.

Mr Major has been able to soften his image by being photographed in cricket whites, something even Mrs Thatcher never managed, but has the time come for some serious Thatcher-style image counselling? Bruce Anderson, author of another forthcoming biography of the prime minister, says that Mr Major has not weakened in his resistance to style sultans. "When he hears the word image, he reaches for the revolver. He wants to be himself. The problem is that he's not Margaret Thatcher. She turned politics into a passion. She brought an operatic quality to politics. The public are getting used to him being prime minister. We in the media are obsessed with political image. But what it comes down to for voters is the money in people's pockets."

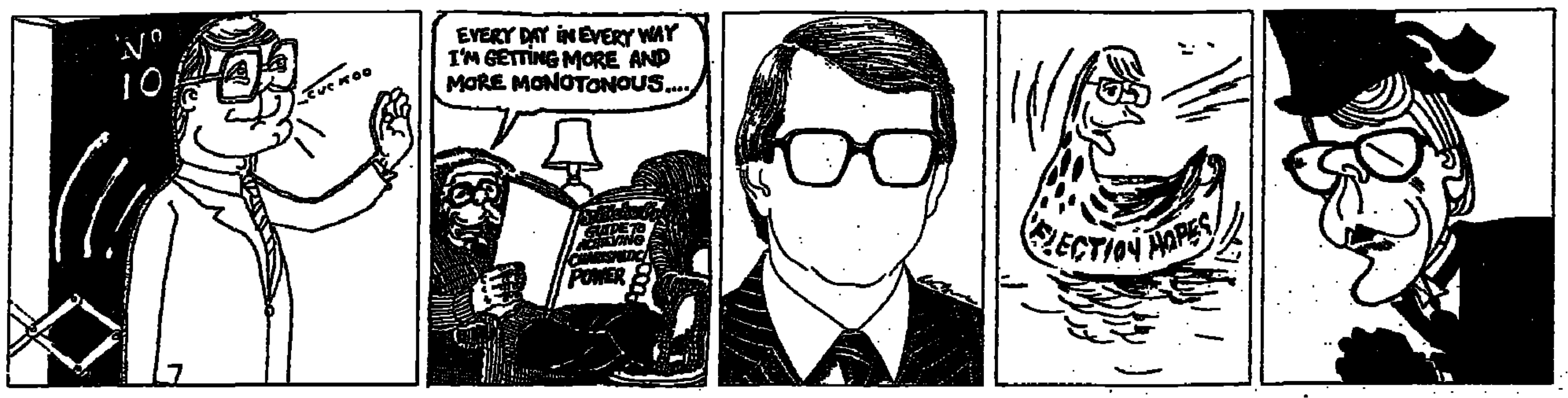
But Mary Spillane, managing director of Colour Me Beautiful, a firm of image consultants, is baffled that Mr Major refuses her offer to pep up his image.

"We deserve more," says Ms Spillane, once a policy adviser to President Jimmy Carter. "He might have needed to look sober in the dark days of the Gulf war. But the daffodils are out. We need something brighter. Research shows that 55 per cent of the impression a person makes comes from how he looks, and 38 per cent on the quality of his voice — both of which are pretty abysmal in Major's case. Only 7 per cent depends on what he is saying.

"Look, I don't want to transform the guy into a fashion plate. But he has to communicate that he has vision and personality.

"He needs some movement in his hair. His hair looks like a skullcap. He needs to have it layered. He has to ditch the tortoise-shell glasses and go for a blue-grey frame that would be more complimentary to his skin colour. Some pale pink and lilac shirts.

"In suits, he could go into a double-breasted. A pocket handkerchief would make them come alive. We want to be proud of him, that's all."


No 10
CUCKOO
7
EVERY DAY IN EVERY WAY I'M GETTING MORE AND MORE MONOTONOUS....
GUIDE TO ACHIEVING CHARISMATIC POWER
ELECTION HOPES

The cartoonists' views: from left, Michael Heath, *The Spectator*; Steve Bell, *The Guardian*; Peter Brookes, *The Times*; Nick Garland, *Daily Telegraph*; Trog, *The Observer*

Curriculum restores teaching traditions in history and geography

Clarke demands fact over opinion

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

IN A further move towards more traditional teaching, Kenneth Clarke, the education secretary, yesterday published final details of national curriculum lessons in history and geography, underlining the emphasis on fact rather than opinion.

He also went some way to meeting critics who had complained about his original proposal for modern history teaching to cover only the period from the turn of the century to the 1960s, with everything after that treated as current affairs. He has decided that the period covered by modern history studied by pupils from 14 to 16 will run from the turn of the century to a time 20 years ago, with the cut-off point moving on in five-year intervals.

"My view remains that pupils should not be legally required to study contemporary events and people, many of whom are still living, because of the difficulty of treating such matters with historical perspective," Mr Clarke said.

His decision to allow 14-year-olds to drop history had led to complaints that they would learn little about the twentieth century and he has introduced a compulsory study unit on the second world war for children aged 11 to 14.

In geography, many detailed changes have been made to clarify what pupils should know at the various key stages and to make the course easier for teachers to manage: "I was not persuaded by those who argued that greater emphasis should be placed on the study of people's views and attitudes on geographical topics."

Mr Clarke has reintroduced items concerning ecological issues related to the differing uses of land and how they affect scenic beauty. He has refused to allow a separate objective covering skills such as being able to use reference and recording systems. "Such skills are required by the programmes of study but I do not consider it essential for them to be assessed separately in geography," he said.

Details of shorter courses linking history or geography or combining them with other subjects for pupils aged 14 to 16, either as GCSEs or equivalent examinations, will be published later this year. Mr Clarke said he believed that the new arrangements would place history and geography firmly in the syllabus for all pupils.

Answering critics who said that the new lessons diminished both subjects, Mr Clarke said that his proposals would "ensure that pupils follow sensible and comprehensive courses".

National curriculum lessons in history and geography for children aged between five and 14 will start next September. Those for pupils aged between 14 and 16 start in 1994.

Jack Straw, Labour's education spokesman, said he would press for a Commons debate on the proposals. "This is a partial climb-down. I think Kenneth Clarke now realises he has made a fool of himself, but the 20-year rule for history is still arbitrary. It means that children in state schools cannot learn the history of the Gulf war until 2011.

What children should know at each age

THE three **history** attainment targets are the knowledge and understanding of history, interpretations of history, and use of sources. Children, for example, should be able to:

At seven: put personal and family photographs in chronological order, detect differences in two adults' accounts of the same event, explain how museum artefacts can help to show how people cooked before gas or electricity.

At 11: suggest more than one cause and consequence of the Black Death; show how the Magna Carta is often remembered as laying down the rights of ordinary people; show how information gained by visiting a historic site can be used to reconstruct the way of life of its former inhabitants.

At 14: identify how the Industrial Revolution affected regions and social groups, investigate how much film or drama give accurate or complete accounts of events in Germany; show how Second World War propaganda throws light on contemporary attitudes.

At 16: explain attitudes of different countries towards the League of Nations, discuss issues that account for the origins of the Korean war; explain how source limitations for the Cultural Revolution make it difficult to form a complete picture.

The five **geography** targets are geographical skills, knowledge and understanding of places, physical geography, human geography, and environmental geography:

At seven: draw a map of a farm; name England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland; use words and pictures to describe experience of weather and seasons; know types of goods supplied in local shops; describe how materials are obtained through quarrying, mining, fishing, lumbering.

At 11: record the co-ordinates of a wood, lake or motorway junction on a 1:50,000 Ordnance Survey map; describe how family life, housing, clothing and diet are affected by landscape, weather and wealth; compare characteristics of soil at a small number of selected sites; investigate urban and rural areas; describe the restoration of derelict land, new uses for gravel pits, landscaping of spoil tips.

At 14: draw an annotated sketch map to show a town in its physical setting; show how environmental, technological, economic, social or political changes have affected land-use and employment; consider conditions producing river and coastal flooding; review advantages and disadvantages of science parks, industrial estates, shopping centres, regional specialisation in farming or a particular industry; give evidence of the impact of tourism on an area.

At 16: bring together information from the Ordnance Survey, land-use, soil and conservation maps to highlight rural relationships; evaluate strategies to influence agriculture, population movement and tourism by assessing consequences; explain the relationship between unreliability of rainfall and distribution of climate and the pattern of atmospheric circulation; describe problems caused by water and atmospheric circulation crossing political boundaries, deforestation, global warming, acid rain and the need for international co-operation.

Sailor's return: Gary Nicholson reunited with his wife Alison at Devonport, Plymouth, yesterday after the frigate HMS London returned from duties in the Gulf. The couple were photographed saying their goodbyes, right, when the London left for the Gulf in November last year. In Portsmouth yesterday, the destroyer HMS Gloucester returned from the Gulf to a rapturous welcome. Tom King, the defence secretary, joined a huge crowd at the quayside to give the Gloucester's 300 crew a rousing welcome as the ship arrived to a cacophony of sirens.

Lottery campaign defeated by secret offer to Lamont

By MICHAEL PRESCOTT

LOBBYISTS for the shipping and film industries are still smarting over Norman Lamont's failure to bow to their blandishments in last week's budget. Despite a campaign which, in the case of shipping, included the use of the Royal Yacht Britannia for two promotional lunches, the Chancellor offered them little or nothing for their comfort.

Their fate is in sharp contrast to the success of the football pool companies. An extraordinary secret deal between Littlewoods and the Treasury headed off the threat of a national lottery which could have destroyed their business.

The Lottery Promotion Company wanted approval for a national game that advocates claim would raise many millions of pounds for sport, the arts, the environment and the Treasury. Tim Renton, the arts minister, was said to be in favour. But just one week before the Budget, Mr Lamont did a deal in which Littlewoods promised that its industry would set up a new arts and sports foundation if spared a national lottery.

The campaign for a lottery seemed to have a fair wind behind it after four years of campaigning by Denis Vaughan, the conductor, who established the lottery company last year. Those he had recruited included Lord Harewood, chairman of English National Opera, Lord Gibson, a former chairman of the National Trust and of the Arts Council and Sir Richard Luce, the former arts minister.

Two key arguments were put to ministers, officials and MPs. First, that the arrival of the EC single market would allow foreign lottery tickets into Britain, and that the nation should pre-empt that; second, a lottery would create its own market without hurting the pools or the £320 million a year the Treasury gets in duty from them. A new reservoir of money would be tapped for the government and good causes.

However, Littlewoods, the biggest pools company, then launched its sabotage plan, hatched with its lobbyist, Westminster Communications. Littlewoods presented the government with an alternative of letting the pools firms set up a new arts and sports foundation. For each £1 from the government — in the form of reduced duty on pools companies — the industry would put up £2. It could raise £60 million a year.

The idea was put to Mr Lamont at a meeting on March 8. Those who gained access to him, just 11 days before the Budget, were Desmond Pitcher, chief executive of Littlewoods, Peter Moores, a leading family shareholder, and Malcolm Davidson, managing director.

Before the meeting, it seems, the government was committed to a lottery. However, the pools men questioned whether EC rules really would let foreign lottery tickets into Britain, and produced a battery of statistics to suggest that a British lottery would indeed eat into the pools business — and the Treasury's duty.

A source in the Littlewoods camp, proud of his side's coup, said: "It is unique to get to see the Chancellor that close to the Budget, and then agree a brand-new proposal which gets into the Budget. A Treasury minister said to me afterwards that we did not know how close we had come to a national lottery."

Court rules Blake case pair could lose homes

TWO men charged with helping the convicted spy George Blake to escape from jail 25 years ago could lose their homes under a High Court ruling made yesterday.

If convicted, Michael Randle and Patrick Pottle could be ordered to forfeit £30,000 they received from the publishers of a book they wrote about the affair. The High Court upheld a legal charge on their properties — a procedure that can be used to force people to sell their homes to meet financial obligations.

Whether the judgment is enforced depends on the outcome of a trial later this year when the two men will answer charges of aiding and abetting Blake's escape and conspiring to harbour him. Blake, sentenced to 40 years in 1961 for spying for the Russians, escaped from Wormwood Scrubs Prison in 1966.

Mr Justice Webster said that in 1988 Mr Randle, aged 56, a lecturer of Bradford, and Mr Pottle, aged 52, a retired antiques dealer of Crouch End, London, signed an agreement with publishers for £30,000 to write a book, *The Blake Escape: How we freed George Blake and why.* They received the money and the book had been published last year.

Increase for farm grants

Farmers will be eligible for bigger grants for diversification and conservation projects under government plans announced yesterday. John Gummer, the agriculture minister, also said that farmers who had lost their entitlement to grants by starting improvements to waste disposal facilities without official clearance could re-apply.

The farm diversification grant scheme and the farm and conservation grant scheme are to be amalgamated, raising the maximum investment on which a grant can be claimed for diversification from £35,000 to £40,000, and for conservation from £74,000 to £85,000.

Penallta closes

British Coal yesterday confirmed it plans to shut Penallta pit near Ystrad Mynach, Mid-Glamorgan, because of geological problems and a shortage of coal reserves. Six hundred jobs will be lost, and miners at the Deep Navigation pit at Treharris near by had planned to seek transfers to Penallta when their own pit closes at the end of this week. Union officials are to meet on Saturday.

Rifkind refusal

Malcolm Rifkind, the transport secretary, has refused to reopen an investigation into the disappearance in a typhoon of the supertanker Derbyshire with the loss of 44 lives in the northwest Pacific in September 1980. Marine accident investigators were instructed last July to examine claims of a possible design weakness in the hull of the Derbyshire, the largest British ship lost at sea.

Surgery queue

A woman who waited 14 years for plastic surgery on her ears has changed her mind because she says she has got used to them sticking out. She is one of hundreds of people written to by Wessex regional health authority in an effort to validate waiting lists. It was found that a third of the 4,500 people waiting for operations had died, no longer wanted the procedure or had had treatment elsewhere.

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مكبر عن الاصل

Femme fatale and lover hatched bizarre plot to murder husband and gain control of estate

Lawnmower couple found guilty of plot to murder husband

By PAUL WILKINSON

THE couple in the "lawnmower murder plot" were yesterday found guilty of conspiring to kill Christopher Whybrow, a barrister, in a fake accident with his ride-on grass cutter.

It took a jury at Norwich Crown Court two hours to agree that Mr Whybrow's wife Susan, aged 49, and her lover Dennis Saunders, a flying instructor aged 54, intended to kill him to secure their relationship and gain control of his £400,000 estate. The court had been told that the couple had planned to stage an accident with the lawyer's mower at the family home at Leavenheath, Suffolk, in which it would look as though Mr Whybrow had drowned when the machine toppled into a lake.

Mrs Whybrow and Saunders had admitted kidnapping Mr Whybrow at his home, but denied the murder attempt, saying they had only wanted to hurt him in retaliation for a beating he allegedly gave his wife. The judge, Mr Justice Kennedy, deferred sentence pending medical and psychiatric reports on Mrs Whybrow. Both defendants were remanded in custody. Mr Whybrow, the intended victim of what the court was told was "the most bizarre and hare-brained murder plot imaginable", was not in court to hear the verdict.

The prosecution told the jury that the couple had become lovers during the summer of 1989, after Mrs Whybrow took flying lessons. By the autumn she was planning to end her ten-year marriage by killing her husband. Mr Whybrow provided his wife with the idea for the plot after pointing out a newspaper story about the death of a mower driver whose machine had toppled into a ditch.

The murder attempt was made on October 18, 1989, when Mrs Whybrow suggested to her husband that they made love on the sitting-room carpet. Saunders, whom Mr Whybrow suspected of having an affair with his wife, was hiding nearby. He intended to surprise the lawyer, drag him outside and tip him and the mower into the duck pond.

Once Mr Whybrow had agreed to sex, his wife slipped outside to alert her lover, but when she returned she found her husband was already undressed. Realising he would have to be fully clothed for the death to appear accidental, she persuaded him to get dressed with the suggestion that she wanted to strip him as part of their foreplay. As the couple embraced she manoeuvred him towards the back door.

Saunders pretended to be a burglar and bound, gagged and blindfolded the barrister, but the blindfold slipped and Mr Whybrow recognised him. At the pondside a struggle took place, during which Saunders called out to Mrs Whybrow: "Where's the knife?".

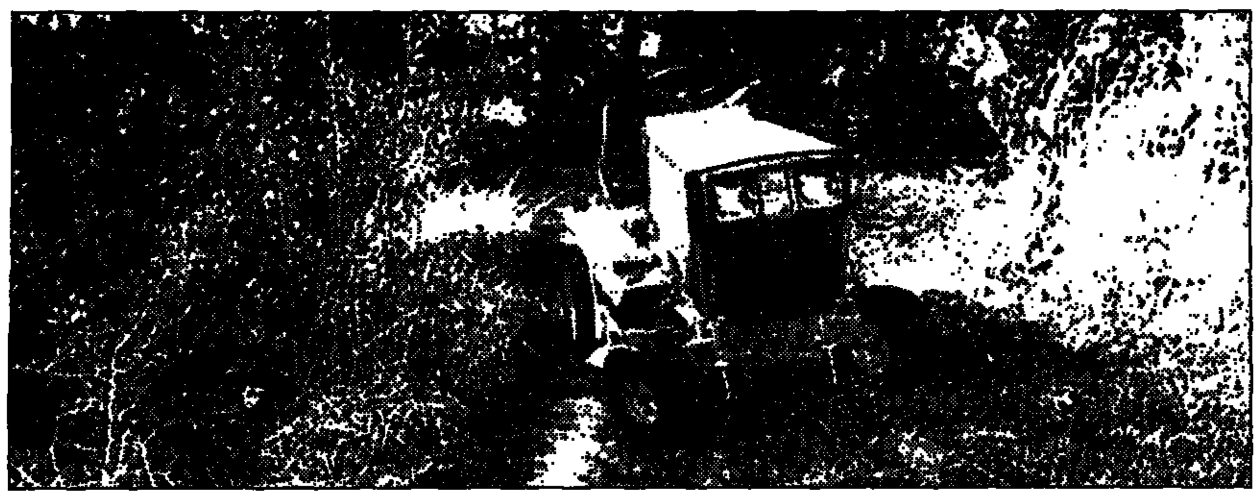
The barrister shouted: "Don't let him kill me." At first his wife made no response, but then she screamed: "You have have been horrible to me. You have irritated me." Saunders pulled a rope around his neck but Mr Whybrow managed to tear it away. He eventually broke free and swam across the water to a neighbour's home. At first they thought he was drunk, but eventually the police were called. A search of his house revealed the mover beside the pond, its engine still running. Saunders and Mrs Whybrow had fled to Italy.

Yesterday the investigating police officer, Det Sgt Philip Mason, said Mr Whybrow had been devastated by the plot to kill him. He said Mrs Whybrow had remained expressionless and emotionless throughout his inquiries.

The trial judge had told the jury before they retired they had to decide whether Mrs Whybrow was a "cold-blooded murderess" or a child-like woman who saw the murder plot as a grand adventure. Mr Justice Kennedy said: "You have have heard the phrase that this lady is a pretty good actress. She is able to jolly her husband back into clothes, saying that within minutes she is going to be taking them off him in an exciting way so that they are going to have a wonderful time together. She is not a little child. She is a sort of femme fatale."

The scene: The Whybrows' house and the pond where Christopher Whybrow was to meet his 'accidental' death

The three protagonists: Susan Whybrow, her husband Christopher, and her lover Dennis Saunders



The means: The lawnmower that was to be used in the plot to kill Mr Whybrow found abandoned by the pond

Life sentence for killer who grinned as policeman died

By ROBIN YOUNG

A MAN who shot and killed a policeman because his girlfriend had jilted him was sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday at the Central Criminal Court.

Mr Justice Tucker described Mark Gaynor, aged 21, as "a thoroughly dangerous young man" guilty of "a most wicked, callous and cowardly act". He recommended that Gaynor should not be released for at least 25 years.

The court had been told that Gaynor shot Pc Laurence Brown, aged 27, in Hackney, London, at point-blank range on August 28 last year after luring him into an ambush by making a 999 call.

It was the second time Gaynor had faced a murder charge. When he was 17, police accused him of murder after a mugging, but the charge was dropped after consideration by the Crown Prosecution Service. Gaynor received a four-year youth custody sentence, and had been released only nine months before PC Brown was killed.

After his girlfriend, Leander Dupres, told him she had another boyfriend, Gaynor left her house, dug up two sawn-off shotguns he had stolen, made the 999 call, and hid behind a wall waiting for police to arrive. John Nutting, prosecuting, said Gaynor grinned before firing.

PC Brown lived in Essex with his wife Janet, aged 27, and their daughter Emma, then four months old. He joined the police when he was 18 and had known his wife, a nurse, since school. Mrs Brown's husband was on duty the night he died only because he had volunteered for overtime to cover for colleagues.

After the shooting Gaynor was arrested single-handedly by PC Gerrard Healey. When he found Gaynor hiding in a tower block the gunman said: "Okay, you got me. I did it. I shot the copper." Gaynor then bragged at Hackney police station: "I blew your copper away because my girlfriend blew me away. I just done it for my girl."

Chief Superintendent Niall Mulvihill told the jury: "Gaynor appeared to be basking in the attention he was receiving. He was clearly pleased with himself. He was bragging."

The court was told that Gaynor was aggressive and violent at school, played truant, and ran with delinquent gangs. His father played no part in his upbringing.

Kim Fraser, a defence psychiatrist, said Gaynor had sexual and personal-relationship problems, and was suffering from mental illness at the time of the offence. A prosecution psychiatrist, Michael Brown, disagreed, saying he was "convinced this is not a case of psychosis".

Gaynor cut himself with a razor and talked about putting a noose around his neck while awaiting trial, and during the trial cut his throat in the cell under the dock, but was not seriously hurt.

As the trial neared its close one juror complained of being intimidated on the way to court. The judge ordered an investigation and measures to protect the jury.

Brown: lured into ambush by 999 call

Gaynor: "Thoroughly dangerous man"

Poll tax cuts cause chaos and cost millions

By DOUGLAS BROOM
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENT

COUNCILS are likely to lose millions of pounds this year as a result of the government's decision to cut £140 a head off the poll tax.

The environment department has told the local authority associations that while it will compensate councils for making the £140 cut in personal poll taxes, it will not make good a similar cut in poll tax levied on second homes. Most councils charge double the individual poll tax for second homes.

Among councils worst affected will be Westminster, which stands to lose £4.9 million of the income it had expected to collect from its 17,500 standard charge payers.

Other councils that will be badly hit include Camden, with 4,500 standard charge payers (£1.26 million at £280 each), Bournemouth with 3,260 (£912,000), Scarborough with 3,000 (£840,000) and Brighton with 2,966 (£830,480).

The environment department said last night that income from the standard charge was, in law, an extra-source income and should not have been included in council budget calculations.

Meanwhile, some councils have appealed to residents to make poll tax payments "on account" to help their cash-flow while they recalculate and reissue bills to take account of the £140 reduction.

Wakefield council, which will see its £349-a-head tax cut to £209 by the government's scheme, is asking residents for £21 a head to tide it over until new bills can be issued.

Roger Burton, city treasurer of Birmingham, England's biggest metropolitan council, said that, after recovering 300 sackfuls of poll tax demands from the post office last week, he now faced a serious shortage of stationery.

"There appears to be a national shortage of envelopes as councils try to re-bill about 18 million people. We cannot lay hands on paper either," he said.

Woodrow Wyatt, page 12

Catholic outcast Lefebvre dies at 85

By CLIFFORD LONGLEY, RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS EDITOR

ARCHBISHOP Marcel Lefebvre, the more-Catholic-than-the-Pope outcast who founded a new denomination rather than submit to Rome, died yesterday in Switzerland, aged 85. The irony of his position followed him to the grave.

Pope John Paul learnt "with pain" of his death and said a prayer for him, the Vatican said, adding that with some sign of repentance, the formal excommunication imposed in 1988 would have been lifted. Archbishop Lefebvre always dismissed this most conservative of Popes as a "modernist", his papal excommunication as null and void, and the Second Vatican Council, 1962-5, as invalid and even, in its teaching of respect for individual conscience, heretical.

The Vatican went a long way to keep Archbishop Lefebvre and his Order of the Fraternity of St Pius X inside the Roman Catholic Church, in the name of the liberty of conscience he rejected so vehemently. Before the final break he was offered a deal: he would be allowed to keep his organisation if he accepted papal authority. The Vatican claimed he signed a draft agreement, but later repudiated it. "We never wanted to create a schism or heresy. What was important was to remain Catholic," he said.

Archbishop Lefebvre, charismatic to followers in spite of dourness, was disciplined not for doctrinal dissent but for refusing an order in 1976 not to ordain more priests to his "fraternity" and in 1988 an order not to ordain four bishops. For the first matter, he was suspended from orders, a sentence he ignored, and for the second excommunicated, punishment that he defied. If he had left his followers without a bishop, they would have run out of priests, because ordinands at the seminary at Ecône, and daughter seminaries in Argentina, Australia, France, Germany and the United States could not then be ordained.

Most of his movement, said to be 100,000-strong with about 240 priests, is in France, though its headquarters is in Switzerland, at Ecône. No modern reforms have been allowed there, and the ethos of pre-Vatican II Catholicism, even of the French ancien règime, is rigorously preserved. As well as rejecting freedom of conscience, the movement is contemptuous of the modern ecumenical movement and of the spirit of reconciliation with Jews. Critics say it refuses to come to terms with the French Revolution.

In Britain, there are five Lefebvrist priests, who claim more than 3,000 supporters. They have kept the Tridentine rite Mass, always in Latin, starting a "battle of the Masses" in London. The Tridentine form, dating from the 16th century, was superseded in the Roman Catholic Church in 1969 by a modified version that could also be said in English. Lefebvrists have attracted supporters who deplore English in the liturgy. To counter this, Cardinal Basil Hume of Westminster has authorised three London churches to revive the Tridentine rite, in Latin, competing with Lefebvrist Masses.

Obituary, page 14

Dr Carey describes his struggle

By RUTH GLEDHILL
RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

DR George Carey, who tomorrow becomes Archbishop of Canterbury, has described how he struggled through a tough childhood to gain an education and a lasting faith. "I had to struggle and I think that the struggle was important. In a sense one has been fighting all the way through, almost to say, hell, I'll show them," Dr Carey says in an interview with Anthony Clare, a psychiatrist.

"I was a deep-thinking young man and therefore wrestling with the one major metaphysical question: Is there a God? If there is, can he be known? If he can be known, does he care for me?"

The interview will be broadcast on BBC1's Everyman on April 14, a few days before Dr Carey's enthronement as Primate of All England on Augustine's Chair at Canterbury. Tomorrow, at St Mary-le-Bow Church, City of London, his election will be confirmed in a ceremony dating back to 1290.

Dr Carey tells Professor Clare that "discovering Christianity was also discovering education, coming as I did from a working-class background". He says that when offered the chance to become the 103rd Archbishop of Canterbury, he "felt like a pygmy". He considered his predecessors and felt overwhelmed. "Why was I chosen?" he asks. "Maybe I'm unworthy."

He also refers to his controversial *Reader's Digest* interview, where he said: "The idea that only a male can represent Christ at the altar is a most serious heresy." He says that he meant to say "error" while making clear that he was sympathetic to the idea of women priests.

Asian railmen win promotion case

By PETER VICTOR

EIGHT Asian British Rail guards who alleged that promotion tests discriminated against candidates for whom English was not their first language won their case yesterday after an industrial tribunal in London.

British Rail agreed to redraw the tests and its selection procedures and to pay the eight men's costs after they agreed a settlement outside the tribunal.

Talvinder Jootley, 26, from east London, and Narendra Dhokia, 32, Vinod Dhokia, 42, Abdul Kharas, 28, Shaeikh Kharas, 30, Dudakia Dilip, 39, Shahid Hamid, 34 and Nirmal Singh, 39, all from west London, failed selection tests to become train drivers three years ago. British Rail conceded yesterday that the selection process had discriminated against them.

The case was funded by the Commission for Racial Equality, which said that it would be seen as an important test for employers' use of similar staff selection techniques.

All the men were based at Paddington station in west London and had been guards for between three and 17 years when they took the tests in 1988 with four other Asian applicants and eight white guards. All the Asian applicants failed while five of their white colleagues passed.

British Rail accepted that its aptitude and safety tests discriminated unfairly against people for whom English was not their first language. The aptitude test included English comprehension tests which, while the applicants understood them, they were unable to complete successfully within the time allowed. British Rail will consult the commission on new selection procedures for driver training.

Crash train driver 'over drink limit'

A TRAIN driver had twice the legal alcohol limit for motorists when his locomotive hit the back of a holiday express, killing him and injuring more than 30 passengers, an inquest heard yesterday (Craig Seton writes).

Philip Sutton, aged 36, died from multiple injuries when his empty train, travelling at about 5 mph, crashed into the stationary Manchester-Penzance express at Stafford railway station last August.

At an inquest at Stafford yesterday into Mr Sutton's death, Terence French, a pathologist, said that two samples of stomach contents showed 155mg and 161mg of alcohol per 100 mililitres of blood — about twice the legal limit for car drivers. A urine sample showed 181 mg.

Alan Peel, a train crew manager, said he saw Mr Sutton, a father of three, drinking, but said: "I did not think he was unfit to drive a train." Other rail executives told the inquest that employees were not allowed to report for work under the influence of drink or drugs.

The Staffordshire coroner, Reginald Browning, told the jury to bear in mind the drink, and that Mr Sutton had been working for a long run of days.

The jury returned a verdict of misadventure on Mr Sutton, of Lichfield, Staffordshire.

Craig surprised by failure of Iraqis to mount a stronger defence

By MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE war cabinet did not "miss a heartbeat" when the job of prime minister switched from Margaret Thatcher to John Major, according to the government's principal military adviser during the Gulf war.

Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir David Craig, who retires next week as chief of the defence staff, said that the overall direction and support for the British forces carried on as before. "I found happily for me it didn't affect the way in which we were going about our business," he said yesterday.

Sir David said that the Ministry of Defence had contingency plans for almost every kind of scenario, but not for sending an armoured division thousands of miles to engage in an offensive operation with a large number of allies. He praised the government for its rapid response.

Sir David, who is to be succeeded by Field Marshal Sir Richard Vincent, said he was surprised that the Iraqis did not fight harder for their country once allied forces had penetrated its borders. "I didn't expect the Iraqis to fight for Kuwait after Saddam Hussein said he wasn't going to hold on to Kuwait," Sir David said in an interview at the defence ministry. "But I expected strong resistance in Iraq."

He dismissed the suggestion that the allied land campaign had been stopped too soon. "I think we would have been rightly held to account for what would have seemed more and more like butchery." He added: "What we didn't want to see was a lot of Mutla Ridges." Mutla Ridge was where Iraqi forces were slaughtered as they tried to escape from Kuwait City along the highway to Basra towards the end of the ground war.

In one respect, however, the allied aims had not been completed. It was now necessary, through diplomatic means, to destroy what remained of Iraq's chemical and nuclear capability.

Sir David said that the lessons of the Gulf war would have to be taken into account in the government's "options for change" defence review. Until now the armed forces had been subjected to "institutionalised overstretch", acting as a deterrent in Europe as well as being prepared to tackle "brush fires" elsewhere in the world. Now, with the changes in eastern Europe, Britain would be more occupied by fighting brush fires than deterrence. Sir David said that he expected the government to announce its options for change decisions by the summer.

Yesterday Britain's defence manufacturers appealed to the government to save the industry's future with increased involvement in military operations. Michael Rouse, director of British Aerospace operations in Saudi Arabia, said during a conference at the defence ministry that the Gulf war had shown that the future needs of the military and industry should be integrated into a coherent policy.

● The pregnant widow of Squadron Leader Garry Lennox, an RAF pilot who was killed in action during the Gulf war, attended his funeral yesterday at the church where they were married nine years ago, All Saints Church, Sherburn-in-Elmet, near York. Anne Lennox, aged 34, is expecting their second child next month.

Many of her husband's colleagues from 16 Squadron at RAF Laarbruch in Germany were at the funeral, where Wing Commander Ian Travers-Smith described him as a "total professional".

Middle East, page 10

Sir David: retiring as chief of defence staff

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'Cigarettes kill 300 non-smokers every year'

By Thomson Prentice, *Medical Correspondent*

ABOUT 300 non-smokers a year die from lung cancer caused by other people's cigarettes, a report endorsed by leading medical organisations said yesterday. Passive smoking also causes bronchitis and pneumonia in infants, and may contribute to heart disease and other conditions in adults, according to the report.

Professor Nicholas Ward, of St Bartholemew's Hospital, London, who chaired the group that produced the report, said there was "no longer any disagreement among scientists that passive smoking is harmful to adults and children, and can be fatal". Infants of parents who smoked were as much as 50 per cent more likely to need hospital treatment for bronchitis and pneumonia, he said.

A study of almost 10,000 children, followed from birth to the age of ten, found a 14 per cent increase in childhood wheezy bronchitis when their mothers smoked more than four cigarettes a day, and a 49 per cent increase if mothers smoked more than 14 a day.

The document, prepared by a team of independent scientific experts, is the biggest concerted effort in Britain for some years to show that passive smoking is hazardous. Doctors and health educators hope the evidence will lead to legislation and voluntary controls to curb smoking in public places and at work.

The report has been funded by the health department, the Health Education Authority, and the main cancer, heart disease and asthma charities. Its findings are supported by more than 30 organisations, including the Royal College of Physicians, the British Medical Association, and the British Lung Foundation.

"The scientific consensus is that the losses in the United Kingdom are equivalent to at least one serious plane crash a year, that is, about 300 deaths," the report said. The estimate is drawn from long-term studies showing the increased risks of the disease among non-smoking husbands or wives of smokers.

About 40,000 people a year in the UK were killed by lung cancer, and nine out of ten of those were smokers. Although the disease was rarely due to other causes, clear evidence that it could be caused by inhaling tobacco smoke from the environment had been difficult to gather, partly because the cancer may take many years to develop. Even so, the report said there was compelling evidence linking passive smoking with lung cancer in adults and serious respiratory illnesses in babies.

Dr Spencer Haggard, chief executive of the Health Education Authority, said: "There is a clear scientific case for taking action to restrict smoking in public places. We expect members of parliament to press for legislation to protect non-smokers, and employers to introduce, implement, and monitor strict smoking control policies at every workplace in the country. They owe their employees nothing less."

Passive Smoking: a Health Hazard (Imperial Cancer Research Fund and the Cancer Research Campaign, from Passive Smoking, PO Box 4RP, London W1A 4RP; £3.95).

Council seeks national policy to protect estuaries

Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent, on a report showing how habitats of spectacular bird populations are threatened by marinas, barrages and rubbish tips

BRITAIN needs a national policy to protect its estuaries, the Nature Conservancy Council said yesterday. They were of great international importance for wildlife, yet current safeguards failed to protect them, it said.

In its final report before its dismemberment next week into separate agencies for England, Scotland and Wales, the council called for a policy to save estuaries from threats ranging from industrial development and housing to tidal barrages and rubbish dumps. It did so on the basis of a detailed 420-page study of estuarine habitats and wildlife, which is likely to become a "bible" of coastal conservation.

The report brought comprehensive scientific backing to the alarm about estuary protection sounded last year by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. That said that millions of wading birds were at risk and accused Britain of failing in its responsibility to care for an international heritage.

The NCC report was less outspoken, coming from an official body, but no less forceful in the detailed picture it built up of the wealth and complexity of wildlife in Britain's 155 estuaries and the piecemeal but steady encroachments upon it. Professor Peter Evans, of the University of Durham, who introduced the report yesterday, said that estuaries were often treated as wasteland, yet the areas between high and low water marks were enormously productive, producing up to 2½ tons of worms, snails and shrimps per hectare.

Nick Davidson, the NCC scientist who headed the study, said that estuaries formed almost half the nation's tidal shoreline and 28 per cent of the estuarine area of Western Europe, more than any other country. At least a third of British common seals bred on estuaries, he said; Scottish estuaries were vitally important for otters; 95 per cent of British natterjack toads, a highly endangered species, lived on estuarine sand-dunes; and economically important fish species bred in estuaries.

Most of all, however, British estuaries were renowned for their spectacular bird populations, supporting in winter more than 10 per cent of the entire international populations of 21 species of waterfowl. In January they contained more than 1,740,000 individuals.

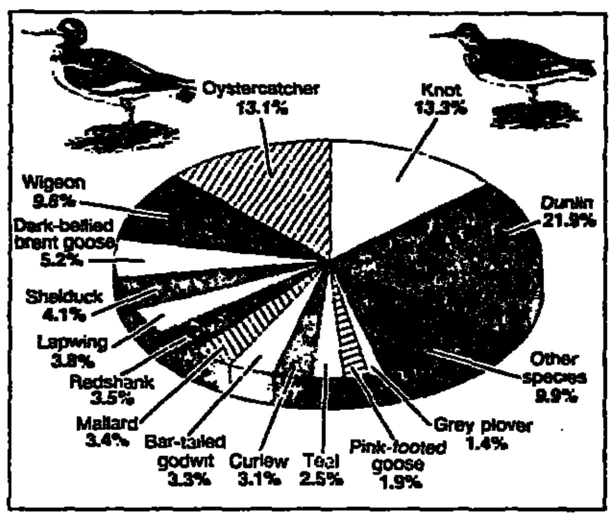
The main threat was land-claim, the embankment or infilling of estuaries for agriculture or urban or industrial development, Dr Davidson said. In 1989, there had been 183 land-claims in progress, affecting 45 estuaries with rubbish or spoil disposal alone accounting for more than 60 per cent of them. A further 135 land-claims affecting 55 estuaries had been proposed, including barrages, marinas and other recreational developments, he said.

"Conservation is difficult to deliver within the present statutory framework because estuaries straddle the boundaries of land and sea, and the many administrative boundaries around our coasts," Dr Davidson said.

The RSPB welcomed the report. Phil Rothwell, its coastal policy officer, said: "It emphasises the appalling loss of habitat in Britain's estuaries by piecemeal development and bad land management. A national coastal conservation strategy should now be produced, and implemented at local level. Only action will stop this tide of destruction."

● A black-browed albatross with an 8ft wingspan is continuing its 20-year search for a mate at the wrong end of the world. The bird, which ought to be in the South Atlantic, has returned to its favourite rock outcrop at Hermaness on the Shetland island of Unst. It is thought to have visited British waters since the 1960s.

Sanctuary: Fishing boats on the Tees estuary at Middlesbrough. Below: Estuaries' bird populations in January



Battle starts for Ron Todd's job

By Tim Jones, Employment Correspondent

NOMINATIONS closed last night for candidates to succeed Ron Todd in the most important post in the trade union movement, general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union. Three hats had been tossed into the ring, but only two really mattered.

They belonged to George Wright, aged 55, regional secretary for the Wales region, who became a shop steward at Longbridge, Birmingham, at 24, and Bill Morris, aged 52, the union's deputy general secretary, who also began his professional union career as a shop steward in the Midlands.

Bob Harrison, the TGWU's national secretary for food, drink and tobacco industries, who put himself forward as a candidate able to unify political factions in the union, has, as even his supporters concede, no chance of victory.

George Wright claims that the left-led TGWU risks terminal decline unless new policies are adopted, and Mr Morris has his own vision of strengthening the union, which has lost a million members in a decade. There are differing opinions on whether the fact that Mr Morris is black is a help or a hindrance. Mr Morris says that he is a professional trade unionist, not a professional black man, while Mr Wright says that only policies matter.

The TGWU leadership has been described as the most powerful non-cabinet post in Britain. There is some truth in that, because the union still commands 18 per cent of the block vote at the Labour party conference, giving it a powerful influence in national politics. It is also a considerable paymaster of the party, contributing £1 million a year.

Mr Wright, who has twice lost to Mr Todd for the leadership, began his campaign with the support of eight of the union's 11 regional secretaries. More important, however, is the number of nominations candidates receive from the union's 7,000 branches. Last night, both sides were claiming that their candidate had most. In truth, it is too early to say whom Ron Todd will introduce as his successor at the union's biennial delegate conference in July.

Morris: hopes to move up from deputy leader's post

Wright: says that TGWU risks terminal decline

Disaster jury set to retire

THE Hillsborough disaster inquest enters its final stages today when the jury is expected to retire and consider the verdicts on why 95 football fans died at the Sheffield ground in April 1989 (Ronald Faux writes).

Dr Stefan Popper, the coroner, told the jury of four women and seven men that there were three possible conclusions: death by accident or misadventure, unlawful killing or an open verdict.

The tragedy happened at the Sheffield Wednesday ground during the FA Cup semi-final between Liverpool and Nottingham Forest after police opened perimeter gates to allow fans in. The police, survivors of the disaster and the football authorities have given evidence in the 78 days of the inquest.

In his summing up Dr Popper said the evidence suggested that the decision to open the gates had been "reasonable" because the officer in charge thought the situation outside the ground was becoming critical.

Fat gets the chop as Britons move towards healthier diet

By Michael Hornsby, Agriculture Correspondent

BRITONS are eating less fat and buying more fresh and frozen convenience foods, amid a long-term trend towards a healthier diet, according to the latest survey of eating habits by the agriculture ministry.

David Maclean, the junior agriculture minister, said: "Since 1985 there has been a dramatic increase in the consumption of low-fat products. Sales of skimmed and semi-skilled milks have risen threefold and, across the board, purchases of fats have fallen by 10 per cent."

Despite the fall in fat consumption, the percentage of energy intake derived from fat in the average diet is still bigger than dieticians consider wise. This is partly due to a decline in other sources of energy, such as sugar. The proportion of energy gained from fat fell from 42.6 per cent in 1985 to 41.6 per cent last year, but is still well above the 35 per cent limit that the health department recommends to reduce the risk of heart disease.

Mr Maclean said that growing demand for convenience foods was not confined to highly processed goods. "Purchases of fresh vegetable products, such as prepared salads, which have more than doubled over the five years, complement the trend towards healthy eating," he said.

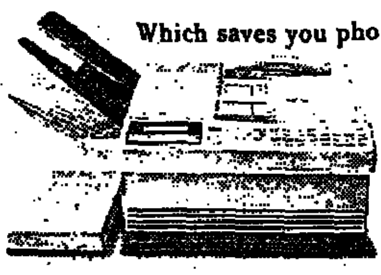
Overall consumption of milk and cream continues to fall, but a 10 per cent drop in demand for wholemilk between 1989 and 1990 was partly offset by a 15 per cent rise in skimmed milk sales. Skimmed milk accounted for 37 per cent of all milk drunk last year, up from only 12 per cent in 1985.

Consumption of fresh fruit remains high, some 15 per cent up on 1985, thanks notably to a 50 per cent rise in banana sales over the past five years. Dry weather and diminished supplies reduced sales of fresh vegetables (excluding potatoes) by 5 per cent last year, while pushing up spending by 7 per cent.

Egg sales fell slightly, but spending on eggs rose by 10 per cent, reflecting higher prices. The amount of meat and meat products eaten also fell, mainly because of lower demand for beef, due to fears about "mad cow" disease, and pork.

Weekly expenditure on food averaged £12.12 a head last year, up 62p (5.4 per cent) from 1989, and was about 12 per cent of consumer spending.

The survey does not cover drinks and confectionery or the estimated 6 per cent of meals bought and eaten away from the home.



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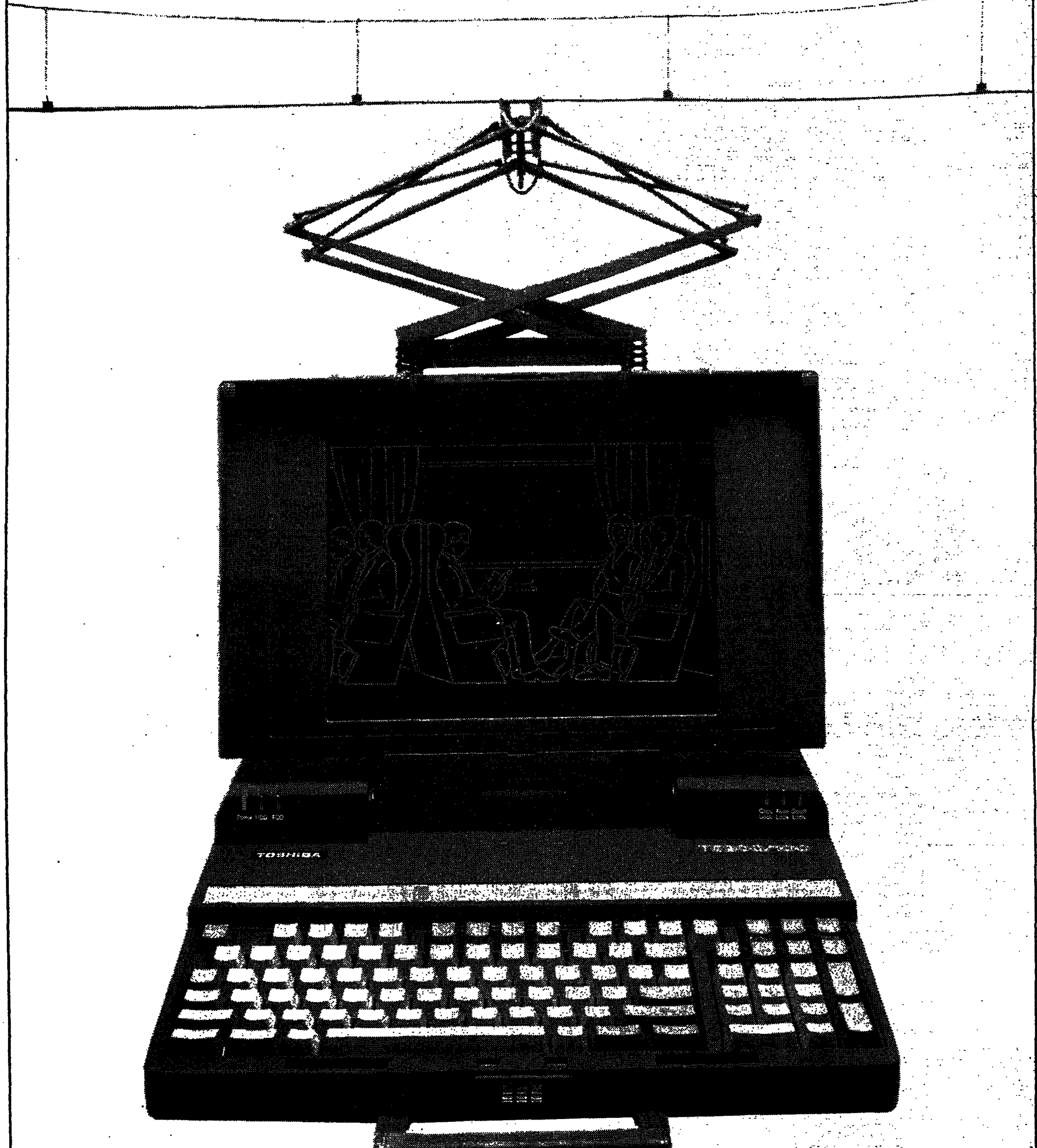

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Cuts force closure of 10,000 training places for offenders

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

ABOUT 10,000 training places on schemes run by voluntary bodies for ex-offenders are to close after cuts of nearly 70 per cent in state funding.

The National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, which has issued 1,000 redundancy notices to staff, believes that up to 9,000 of its 13,000 adult training places will be lost. The Apex Trust, a charity devoted to training ex-offenders, is cutting 145 of its 240 staff and 1,200 of its 1,850 training places.

The Trust staged protests against the cuts at many of its 22 centres in England and Wales yesterday. It published statements of support for its work from ten leading firms and corporations, including British Telecom, the Wellcome Foundation and Marks and Spencer. At the charity's centre in Wirral dozens of former criminals staged a sit-in. Baroness Seear, the charity's chairman, said the closures were ridiculous and sad because they would undermine government plans to reduce the prison population by expanding community punishments. "It is crystal clear that if offenders are going to be dealt with in the community they have to be given sensible things to do while they are in community. Job training must count as the priority," she said.

Baroness Seear: "Training must count as priority"

It is understood that Kenneth Baker, the home secretary, has protested privately about the plight of the specialist training courses, but has failed to persuade Michael Howard, the employment secretary, to offer "ring-fenced" funding for the schemes. Forty-one training centres face closure and 33 others will be reduced in size. Some, including workshops in Peckham and Southwark, south London, will close at the end of the week.

The upheaval is the result of cuts of £230 million in overall state support for adult training and the government's decision to devolve responsibility for training to the employer-led Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs). The TECs say training ex-offenders and other disadvantaged groups such as the physically handicapped is not mainly their responsibility.

Paul Cavadino, Nacro's chief press officer, said: "Some of the TECs are more sympathetic than others, but, in general, they seem to want to concentrate on people who are relatively employable. It obviously costs more to provide the kind of intensive, long-term places that ex-offenders and others like them need."

The cutbacks would produce an "enormous reduction" in training for people with special needs and would sabotage the government's plans, encapsulated in the Criminal Justice bill, now before Parliament, for fewer jail sentences. Offenders are a much better prospect for non-custodial penalties if they have a place on a training scheme," he said.

Bill Mather, chief executive of the Apex Trust, said research had shown a strong link between unemployment and criminality. "In 1979," he added, "the Trust had just five employees. By last year it had 380 staff dedicated to this work and a presence in most major conurbations. By next week, if nothing changes, the infrastructure developed here with public money over the last ten years will have largely gone".

Baroness Seear believed the cuts might not have happened if the Home Office had been informed earlier of the impact of the shake-up in adult training on ex-offenders.

DES JENSON

Back relief: Walkers on the South Downs in Sussex, encumbered by heavy kit and equipment, need struggle no more. From this weekend, these four llamas, and two others not in the picture, will be available for hire to take the strain. For a fee starting at £15 they will carry walkers' bags for up to five hours and eight miles. The six British-bred Peruvian llamas — gelded males for a calmer temperament — belong to Jennifer and Michael Spooner who started keeping llamas in 1984. Their diet consists of hay and grazing and horse mix concentrate.

Channel 4 remakes banned programme

By ROBIN YOUNG

CHANNEL 4 has remade a television documentary that the BBC banned in 1986, and is to broadcast it as part of a series on secrecy and censorship.

Cabinet, from the BBC series *Secret Society*, was shelved after the corporation came under political pressure. The programme argued that, as prime ministers, James Callaghan and Margaret Thatcher had extended the role of secret cabinet committees to make important decisions. Channel 4 and the journalist Duncan Campbell failed in efforts to buy the unscreened documentary from the BBC. Instead it has been remade, using Mr Campbell's original script.

Those appearing in the £4 million Channel 4 series *Banned* include the former director-general of the BBC Alasdair Milne, who approved the original programme, but was obliged to resign during the ensuing controversy.

Banned will also show *Mother Ireland*, a documentary postponed in 1988 because it included an interview with Mairead Farrell, an IRA member shot in Gibraltar; the ITV programme *Death on the Rock* about the shootings; and an interview with the leader of Sinn Fein, Gerry Adams, from the *Dispatches* series. The voices of Mr Adams and Miss Farrell will be dubbed to conform with the government's ban on broadcasting the voices of IRA supporters.

The series will also include *The Propaganda War*, a *World in Action* programme shelved by Granada in 1981; an updated version of *Juvenile Liaison*, about police treatment of young offenders; the original film of *Brimstone and Treacle*, banned by the BBC; the Monty Python film *Life of Brian*, formerly banned by the BBC and ITV; and a Thames Television programme from the *Sex In Our Time* series, due to receive its first showing after a 15-year delay.

Lane rules fourth conviction unsafe

By CRAIG SETON

ANOTHER man serving a long prison sentence after being convicted on the evidence of the now disbanded West Midlands Serious Crime Squad was cleared by the Court of Appeal yesterday after Lord Lane, the Lord Chief Justice, expressed great concern about an alleged confession to detectives.

Anthony Wellington, aged 26, who was serving a 10-year sentence for armed robbery, was the fourth man to have his conviction quashed after claiming that the Serious Crime Squad fabricated evidence. Another 15 appeals are pending.

Lord Lane said yesterday that the court's concern over irregularities in a statement by Wellington to detectives had over-ridden its reluctance to intervene in the case. He said that an addition to the statement by an officer, described by the Crown as over-enthusiasm and not dishonesty, "does not engender great confidence".

Wellington's appeal was the first involving West Midlands police to be considered by the Lord Chief Justice since he was called on to resign after the release by the court of the six men convicted of the 1974 Birmingham pub bombings. The Birmingham Six had been interrogated by detectives from the force, including members of the Serious Crime Squad, and Lord Lane had dismissed their earlier appeal.

Wellington, from Handsworth, Birmingham, had claimed that detectives "doctored" his statement to turn it into a confession by inserting three new pages and making other additions to implicate him falsely in an armed robbery at a post office in Birmingham in 1986. The court was told the three pages were not a contemporaneous record of a police interview with Wellington, but were the only evidence against him. A jury at his trial at Birmingham Crown Court in 1988 had believed the "confession" and found him guilty.

Yesterday, Wellington's sentence was set aside when the court quashed his conviction for the robbery as unsafe and unsatisfactory. Wellington has served four years of a concurrent six-year sentence for other offences, which he admitted, and is due to be released from Long Lartin prison, Hereford and Worcester, today.

The court had heard that an electrostatic document analysis test suggested that three pages of an eight-page statement allegedly made by Wellington had been inserted later. It was indicated that the phrase "I was standing by the phone box" had had the words "keeping watch" added.

The Serious Crime Squad was disbanded in 1989 by Geoffrey Dear, the then West Midlands chief constable, after the collapse of a number of criminal trials over allegations of fabricated evidence. The squad's past practices are being investigated by West Yorkshire police, although after 19 months no officers have been charged. Since the enquiry began, three other men — Keith Parchment, Hassan Khan and John Edwards — have had convictions for robbery quashed and have been freed.

Climber pulled to his death

A rock climber fell 150ft to his death when a companion who was attached to him by a rope slipped and pulled him from the top of a cliff, a mountain rescue team member said yesterday.

George Lowes, aged 46, of Kendal, Cumbria, is thought to have been anchored to the clifftop on Castle Cragg, Borrowdale, Cumbria, when the rope jerked and pulled him over the edge. His companion, William Freeland, of Threlkeld, near Keswick, clung to the rocks below and eventually made his way to safety. The coroner for west Cumbria opened an inquest into the death yesterday.

Phone ban

Steven Goldie, aged 21, of Gosport, Hampshire, was banned from using public telephones when he was bailed until April 8 by Clerkenwell magistrates, north London, yesterday on a charge of making a hoax bomb warning.

Body found

Police divers yesterday found the body of Matthew Dean, aged eight, of Brentwood, Essex, who fell 50ft into the River Conwy, near Betws-y-coed, Gwynedd, after slipping from a path above a ravine at Fairy Glen on Sunday.

Bribery fine

Won Jip Kim, aged 36, of Kingston upon Thames, was fined £10,000 and given a 12-month suspended jail sentence by Middlesex Guildhall crown court yesterday for trying to bribe the police.

More jobs go

The aero engineering group FFV Aerotech is calling for 115 voluntary redundancies from among its 345 workers at Manchester airport. The move follows plans to cut 900 other jobs at the airport.

£100,000 find

A pine bookcase believed to be one of the earliest pieces by Charles Rennie Mackintosh and worth up to £100,000 has been found at a house in Fife.

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CRIME PREVENTION WEEK 15 APRIL 1991

Stop consulting, start deciding, Lawson advises government

By ROBERT MORGAN, PARLIAMENTARY STAFF

A TOUGH warning to the government to stop consulting and start deciding was delivered *last night* by **Nigel Lawson**, the former Chancellor. "The government is in danger of giving consultation a bad name", he said.

Speaking during the fourth and final day of the Budget *debate in the Commons, he* said that he had introduced a number of tax reforms but had not consulted about them. If he had done so, not one would have been possible to enact.

He quoted Pierre Mendès-France, the former French prime minister, who said: "To govern is to choose". Mr Lawson said: "I agree with that. *To appear* to be unable to choose is to appear to be unable to govern. Consultation is an aid to government ... but we are in danger of seeing consultation as a substitute for government."

The principle of single-tier local authorities should be a firm government decision with consultation being concerned with the way it could be implemented sensibly. As for consulting on the nature of the new local tax, that was nothing less than an infallible recipe for dissent.

The Chancellor had not consulted about his change to a 17½ per cent value-added-tax rate and he congratulated Norman Lamont on a well kept secret.

Earlier, Mr Lawson had said *that there should be single-tier* local authorities with the responsibilities of local government and central government clearly defined. To achieve that, there would have to be a transfer of certain local responsibilities to central government.

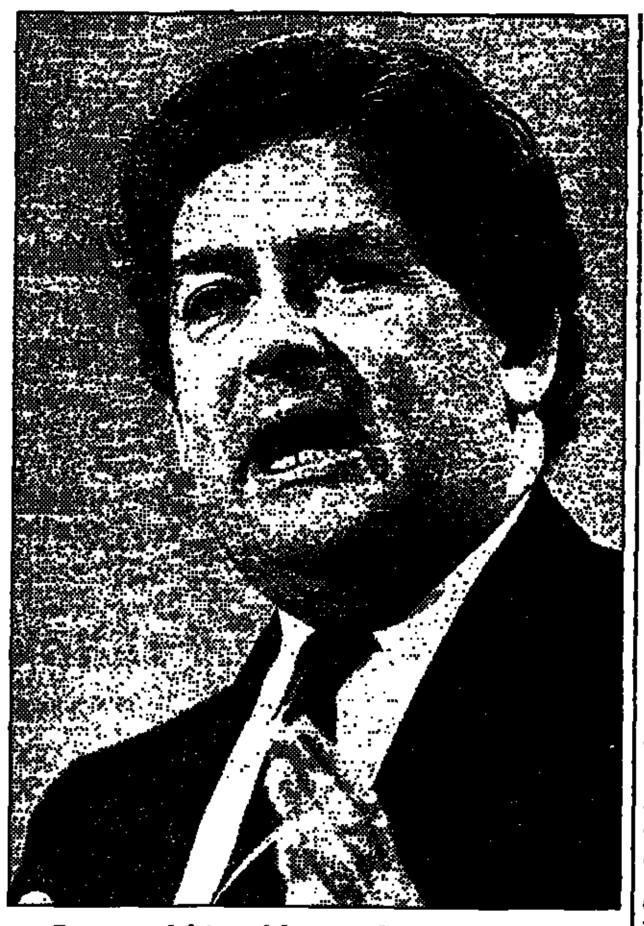
There had been a strong case for that before the Budget. Now, with local authorities financing only 11 per cent of their spending, it was not possible. It was inconceivable that *local government* responsibilities could shrink to that extent.

The proposed new tax was to be part property tax, and part poll tax. With discounts and with people in higher-value areas paying more than those in lower-value areas, that would have been the right answer before the Budget. Now there were public expenditure dangers as well as political difficulties.

Under both governments, central government grant to local government had been reduced in percentage terms. If they were to control public expenditure, no other option was possible because local authorities would always spend more if they could.

The government was hoping that it could restrain local spending by capping but there was a limit to the strain that capping could take. Therefore, having gone as far as the Chancellor now had in cutting the amount of revenue local authorities raised themselves, he was driven to the conclusion that "we have to go the whole hog and abolish local *authority taxation altogether*".

Mr Lawson argued the case for the present zero rate of VAT to be raised to 5 per cent. When VAT was introduced, he recalled, the gap was between zero and 10 per cent. Now it was 17½ per cent, which was far too much and economically undesirable.



Lawson: ministers giving consultation a bad name

He was putting that forward because the government appeared to be engaged in yet another consultative process. "Therefore, that is my contribution to the consultation process".

Gordon Brown, Opposition trade and industry spokesman, said that since last *week's "Budget for business"* 14,000 redundancies had been announced and at least 300 companies had gone under. The government's response was to panic and dither and then make any decision, so long as it held together the divided factions of the Tory party.

Women's ministry 'is Labour vote-winner'

By ROBIN OAKLEY, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Labour Party outlined plans yesterday for a ministry for women, claiming that the plan was popular enough to determine the outcome of the general election.

Jo Richardson, the party women's spokesman, said: "A secretary of state for women in the cabinet will make sure women's voices are heard at the centre of power. All government departments will be required to have a minister with responsibility for equal opportunities.

"Bills must be produced with an impact statement for their effects on women and each government department will have to produce annual reports on their policies for women. There will be regular women's questions in the chamber, ensuring that Parliament devotes a much more equal amount of time to women's concerns."

Clare Short, a member of *Labour's national* executive, said at the launch that the plan was popular with women. "These policies might well be central to shifting enough votes to ensure a Labour victory."

Ms Richardson said that the women's department would be small, about the size of the Office of Fair Trading. No budget had yet been fixed for the ministry, and the timetable would depend on resources.

Labour argues the case for a women's ministry on the grounds that there are only 44 women among Westminster's 650 MPs and that overt discrimination in society needs to be tackled. Although the same arguments could be used in relation to ethnic minorities, the party has decided against an equality ministry.

Ms Richardson said that Labour's top priority would be to strengthen sex discrimination law and the Equal Opportunities Commission to enforce it. "*The ministry for* women will be more than just another Whitehall department. It will be a stimulus to the traditional departments and a catalyst for change." It would be a think tank for other departments.

The document outlining the ministry says that it would ensure that local authority services were provided on an equal opportunities basis and encourage women to participate in public life. The minister would be able to secure deferment of cabinet discussion, with the prime minister's agreement, where women's interests were involved.

There would be studies *on* the social effects of pornography. More areas will be "trawled" to encourage women into public life. The report says that a more normal working day would make it *possible for more women to* become MPs and "discourage the late night atmosphere of a male club".

Leading article, page 13

Scandinavia gives equal rights but no cabinet seat

PUBLIC recognition of women's status in the rest of Europe includes equal rights but no separate ministry in Scandinvia and a minister without a cabinet seat in France

☐ **SCANDINAVIA:** equality *of the sexes has advanced* further in the Nordic countries than anywhere else, but none has felt it necessary to create a ministry of women. One Icelandic woman official was appalled at the suggestion: "That is the worst I have heard — as if women were separate from humanity".

The Norwegian cabinet includes a minister for children and family affairs. Otherwise, in all five countries — Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland and Iceland — women's issues are handled by one or more of the orthodox ministries.

Iceland has a *women's party* and Norway's cabinet has nine women among its nineteen ministers, including the prime minister. In the Finnish elections this month, women won 77 of the 200 parliamentary seats.

☐ **GERMANY:** in 1986, West Germany decided to give a government member responsibility for women's affairs and the portfolio was added to that of the health, youth and family minister from the start of 1987. The post has been held by a woman ever since, although from the start of this year when the new government was formed the ministry was divided into three separate departments, each with its own cabinet minister.

The ministry concentrates much of its attention on making sure that motherhood does not interfere with a career. All new legislation has to be vetted to ensure that it does not discriminate against women, with the ministry having the power to veto discriminatory laws.

☐ ***FRANCE:*** a *Ministère* des Droits de la Femme was created in 1981 by the socialist government of Pierre Mauroy. Yvette Roudy was the first minister. In 1988, a new organisation called the sec*retariat of state for women's* rights was created with Michèle André at its head.

Its brief is now defined as "taking all measures and actions required to improve women's rights in social and economic life and of correcting the inequalities to which they are subject".

Mme André does not have *full ministerial rank* and thus does not sit in the cabinet. Her budget for this year is about £10 million.

According to a recent opinion poll, 92 per cent of French women approve wholeheartedly of the existence of the secretariat and what it is trying to achieve; 6 per cent did not.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Employment; prime minister. Community charges (general reduction) bill, all stages.
Lords (2.30): Criminal justice bill, committee, first day.

MPs learning to love the cameras

By RICHARD FORD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

AS MPs prepare for the publication today of a report setting out the proposed arrangements for the permanent televising of Parliament, most of them are surprised at how little has changed since the cameras entered the Commons.

The worst fears of those opposed to *allowing* television into the chamber have failed to materialise. The cameras have also made a star of Bernard Weatherill, the Speaker, who has become a cult figure on the other side of the Atlantic.

MPs have passed their screen test. Suits are smarter. Dresses are often in primary colours, with red popular on the Tory benches.

John Biffen, a former leader of the House, suggested why the pessimists had been confounded. He said: "I do not believe that the reaction to the televising has been as anticipated because on the whole there have not been conscious attempts to engage in outrageous self-publicity. For that one thanks the qualified good sense of MPs but more particularly the broadcasters. This is one more example where the relationship between politics and the media is in that rather elusive department obtained in the lobby. There is common cause in preserving the institution rather that ridiculing it."

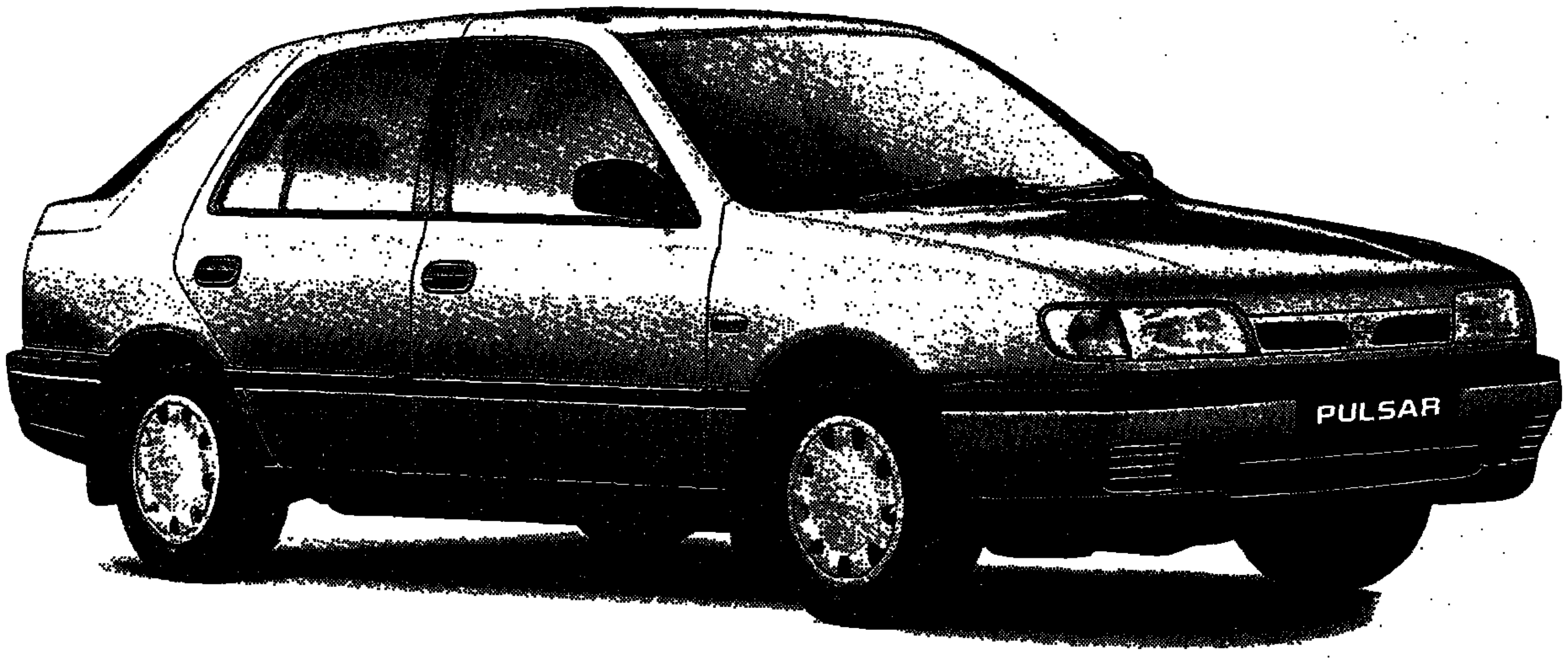
On the whole what is most remarkable about television is how little it has changed the House of Commons. Neil Kinnock's questions are shorter and he is more relaxed. John Major smirks and grins rather too much, but then viewers probably find that a relief after the steely stare *of Margaret Thatcher*.

Biffen: common cause in preserving institution

The host of points of order and interruptions that greeted the initial arrival of the cameras have died down. However, Mr Biffen still hopes for an improvement *in* parliamentary manners during the twice weekly instalment of prime minister's questions. "Parliamentary control of the prime minister is Parliament at its least effective and the office of prime minister has grown over the last two decades. Instead of a real parliamentary relationship, we have an oral shouting match twice a week".

Those MPs who hoped that the cameras would bring change in the arcane procedures of the House have been disappointed, however. Mr Biffen said: "The changes in our procedures will be much less than had been previously suggested".

The new Nissan Pulsar...



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Luxuries like speed-sensitive power assisted steering would make driving that much more civilised. You could relax in executive comfort and enjoy your favourite stereo radio programme or listen to the taped music of your choice.

Such executive pleasures, however, are normally associated with a £20,000 price tag and running costs that would rival the average mortgage!

But now the new Nissan Pulsar brings you all these luxuries and more in a compact, economical family car that doesn't cost the earth.

There's a choice of four different body styles with 3-door and 5-door hatchbacks, a 4-door saloon and a sporting coupe.

On hatchbacks and saloon you can choose the 82bhp 1.4 litre engine delivering impressive performance without damaging the environment thanks to its standard 3-way catalytic converter. Alternatively you can opt for the 95bhp 1.6 litre which is also fitted to the Pulsar 100NX coupe. All engines run on unleaded fuel without adjustment and use it sparingly.

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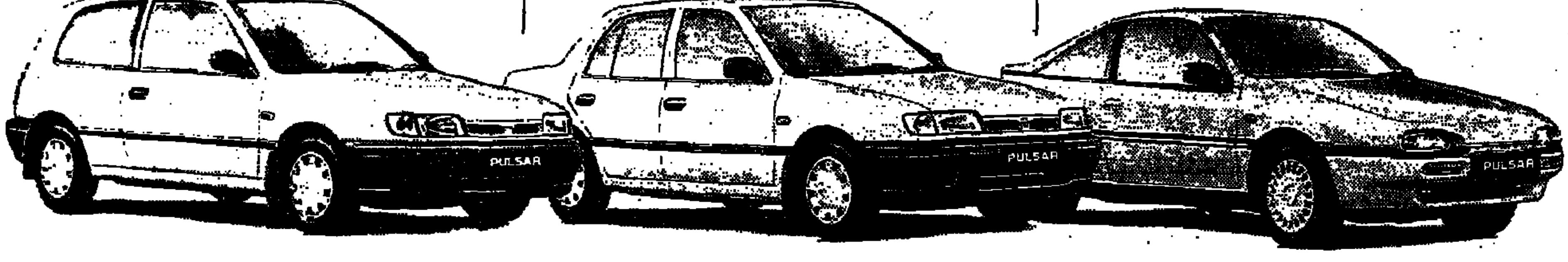

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China sees visit by Hurd as pointer to rehabilitation

By MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

DOUGLAS Hurd, the foreign secretary, is to make a five-day visit to China next week, the first by a senior Western foreign minister since the shooting of students in Tiananmen Square in 1989. He will also spent three days in Hong Kong.

His visit, announced by Xinhua, the official Chinese news agency, will be seen in Peking as an important signal of China's return to the international fold after its diplomatic isolation by the West. Mr Hurd will have talks with Qian Qichen, his Chinese counterpart, and is expected to meet *Li* Peng, the prime minister, who is closely linked in Chinese minds with the killings.

Hong Kong will be a main issue. Mr Hurd is seeking assurances from China that Peking intends to abide by the guarantees given to Hong Kong when the territory reverts to Chinese sovereignty in 1997. His visit is intended to send a signal of confidence to the business community.

Hong Kong's plans for a new port and airport constitute the biggest bone of contention. Britain has said that the airport project is a matter for Hong Kong. Peking, however, would rather deal with London. China has complained that the airport will empty Hong Kong's coffers, leaving the colony destitute when Peking takes over. Hong Kong says China does not have a say in projects undertaken before 1997, and that the plans will become uneconomical if scaled down. Mr Hurd may be hoping to bring about a compromise.

The agenda will also include discussions of world issues where China's participation is crucial, including the Gulf. Britain believes that, as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, China should be brought out of its isolation and consulted as extensively as the Soviet Union. Such talks will restore confidence in Peking that the West is ready for a more co-operative relationship.

Another issue that will come up in Hong Kong and possibly also in Peking is the renewed influx of Vietnamese boat people. *Hundreds more* have begun arriving in Hong Kong, *and many are making* their way overland through China. *Despite efforts to persuade them to return, there are still about* 52,000 *in camps in* Hong Kong, and arrivals outnumber departures.

Britain, Canada and Australia yesterday convened a conference in Geneva under the auspices of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees to try to enforce a unified world response. Vietnam and the United States are involved, and Britain is hopeful that Hanoi can be persuaded to give a formal declaration that anyone returning to Vietnam will not be persecuted.

Britain is hoping the conference will uphold the principle of screening, and the countries where the Vietnamese are seeking to emigrate will admit more boat people. Britain has already agreed to take 2,000.

John Major raised the issue with President Bush during his recent talks in Washington. Privately, the US administration has understood Hong Kong's dilemma in carrying out forced repatriation. But opinion in Congress and the media has been critical. Mr Hurd is expected to inspect boat-people camps.

Peking reaffirms hardline stance

From CATHERINE SAMPSON IN PEKING

LI PENG, the prime minister of China, opened the annual session of parliament in Peking yesterday with a defiant declaration that the country would resist the efforts of "foreign hostile forces" to subvert socialism, and it would remain "firm as a rock in the East".

Mr Li's state-of-the-nation speech, lasting nearly three hours, failed to mention the 1989 student movement and its accompanying political upheaval. It appears he hopes this embarassing episode can now be conveniently forgotten. However, his message of hardline socialism remains.

"In the next ten years, China will be faced with a volatile international situation, in which foreign hostile forces will continue their *attempts to effect peaceful* evolution in China," Mr Li said. His words seemed to reflect a paranoia brought on by watching the collapse of the communist monopoly on power in eastern Europe. In communist jargon, "peaceful evolution" is the phrase used to describe gradual change leading towards capitalism, and has become the ultimate evil in Peking's eyes.

He enumerated 12 principles for building socialism, including upholding the "people's democratic dictatorship led by the working class", developing a socialist planned commodity economy, and adhering to marxist-leninist and maoist thought. At the same time, and in seeming contradiction to the ideologically blinkered vision he offered, he said China would continue with policies of reform and opening to the world. Mr Li condemned the West for raising human rights concerns about China.

Mr Li's speech reflected a political stagnation which analysts are comparing with the years under Brezhnev in the Soviet Union. A power struggle is believed to be taking place between reformists and hardliners.

Image maker: the prostitute leaning in a doorway may become a rare sight in Bangkok if the reforms succeed

Thai junta to curb sex industry

A decision by Bangkok's *new military* rulers to declare war on prostitution will threaten the lucrative tourist business, Neil Kelly writes

THE military government in Thailand intends to curb the country's sex industry, which employs one million female and male prostitutes. The cutback, which would discourage sex tours by foreign visitors, could have significant economic consequences, since tourism, the biggest source of foreign exchange, will bring in more than £2 billion this year.

Mechai Viravaidya, a minister in the prime minister's office, whose successful family planning programme a decade ago made his name a household word here, said curbing the sex industry was one of the social *changes planned* by the new government.

The campaign would concentrate on education and persuasive publicity, but there might also be changes in the law. The government would attempt to create jobs for women who otherwise might become prostitutes. Details are expected to be disclosed when the government presents its policies to the new national assembly after its first meeting is opened by King Bhumibol on Thursday.

The new policy appears to be having some success. When 8,000 American sailors arrived from the Gulf for leave in Pattaya last weekend, the beach resort south of Bangkok where bars, massage parlours and transvestite shows have given it the reputation of "sin city", they were not met by the thousands of bar girls who normally flock to Pattaya when the fleet comes in. Instead, on the beach were many of the sailors' wives and children, some who had travelled from America.

At times, Pattaya beach has been the scene of battles between the "service girls", as they are called by Thai officialdom, and women's rights activists and Aids workers. But this year, many of the girls were forced to look elsewhere for work, as the Gulf war, terrorism threats, pollution and Aids kept tourists away.

Mr Mechai said that sex tourists were not the main problem. He declared: "What we are up against is the tradition for Thai men to go to brothels and the easy access to commercial sex. When a boy in the Western world goes on his first date, boys in Thailand *visit a prostitute*."

He would like all brothels *closed for several months* and allowed to reopen under strict medical supervision and other controls. *Under Thai* law, prostitution is illegal, but the law is rarely enforced and penalties are derisory.

Mr Mechai said prostitutes and their clients were spreading HIV, the Aids virus. He estimated that 300,000 Thais were HIV-infected, and the World Health Organisation said recently there might be 1.5 million Thai carriers by 1995. A medical examination three months ago of young men called up in an area of northern Thailand for military service discovered that 14 per cent were *infected, almost three times* the number found in a *survey one year earlier*.

The drive against big *crime is expected to be little* more successful than previous efforts, as some suspects are known to have *friends in high places*.

Charoen Pattanamdamrong, a "godfather" from the northeast, called on General Sunthorn Kongsompong, the supreme commander who led the coup last month, and an old friend, to say he would support any action to curb crime. He was not worried personally, but acknowledged that he would have to adapt to the new situation.

Cheating teachers blot the copybook

From JOANNA PITMAN IN TOKYO

TO BE lazy when taking a high-school entrance examination in Japan might be considered shortsighted, given that entire careers and future lifestyles depend on success. To be idle when cheating, however, is downright stupid.

Last week, three Japanese were caught cheating in the entrance examination for the Hyogo prefectural agricultural high school. However, the three were not summoned to appear before the headmaster to be disciplined. This is because the head was one of the three caught red-handed with pencil and rubber.

Yoshiharu Ishida, principal of the school, and two senior teachers were arrested last week for doctoring the entrance exam papers of *15* of 399 applicants for the school's *240 places. Mr Ishida told the* police that four influential legislators on the prefectural assembly and members of the school's alumni association had requested his help in arranging for their sons and others to pass the exams. He told the police that he had been "unable to decline, because the four hold a great deal of influence in the agricultural industry. We are indebted to them daily".

The headmaster and his two alleged accomplices, Shiro Kitagawa and Hisanaka Ikeda, are said to have spent two hours after the entrance exam on March 15 in Mr Ishida's office, correcting wrong answers and filling in blanks in the multiple choice papers to ensure the 15 students passed. While they are alleged to have begun their tampering session intending to disguise their handwriting, they apparently became bored and reverted to their own script.

The school's imaginative approach to examination marking is no exception in Japan. Observers estimate that up to 50 per cent of places at the country's most important private schools and universities are filled via good connections or the offer of donations to the schools' or teachers' bank accounts.

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CIA of Wall St tracks down dictator's multibillion hoard

Iraqi financial transactions are under scrutiny from a formidable international intelligence agency. Charles Bremner reports from New York on claims that it has traced vast holdings across the world from Europe to Panama

Kroll: found a mafia-style racket run from Baghdad

WHEN Iraq's international money managers heard that Jules Kroll was on their tail, they must have said a prayer or two. Their worst fears were realised at the weekend when Kroll Associates, the secretive private intelligence agency based in New York, said it had traced vast Iraqi holdings, including a personal fortune of billions of dollars belonging to President Saddam Hussein.

"This is not the end," Joe Rosetti, the Kroll managing director who headed the investigation, said yesterday. "We are investigating, in fact, the country... We are pursuing over 150 additional entitites and certain bank accounts in certain countries. We are going after the assets controlled by Saddam and his family." Mr Rosetti is a former head of security for IBM and a former senior official in the intelligence division of the justice department.

Just the mention of Kroll Associates, a global firm of investigators run by a one-time New York prosecutor, is enough to spoil the appetite of shady financial operators from one side of the planet to the other. "They're like a heat-seeking missile," said one former subject of Mr Kroll's attentions. "Once they're on to your case, they don't let go."

Mr Kroll's firm, known as the CIA of Wall Street, is a motley crew of accountants, one-time intelligence and SAS officers, private detectives, former FBI agents, prosecutors, academics, terrorism experts, investigative reporters and computer specialists. They pride themselves on both their electronic expertise and the far-flung network of personal contacts at the intersections of finance, intelligence and law enforcement. In London, Kroll is run by Patrick Grayson, a former Guards officer. Much of the Iraq investigation was carried out from his office in Curzon Street, the same one which used to belong to Sir Maurice Oldfield when he ran MI5.

Mr Rosetti said the Iraq investigation was one of the toughest tackled by the company because they faced an operation run by a government armed with the power of its central bank. Although Kroll's findings usually stay secret, their Kuwaiti clients and the American government believed that publicity would be useful, hence Mr Kroll's appearance on CBS television on Sunday. The investigators were shadowed by Iraqi agents throughout the investigation that took them across Europe and to Panama where they found a key Iraqi front company named Montana Management.

Mr Kroll, a heavy-set lawyer who likes to work standing at a lectern, said his outfit had uncovered a mafia-style racket run from Baghdad which controlled secret investments and exacted protection money from neighbouring states. His firm had traced nearly $1 billion (£500 million) of secret Iraqi shareholdings in European companies that had escaped United Nations sanctions. Through front companies in Britain, France and the US, Iraq owned, among other things, an 8per cent holding in Hachette. Properties of the French company include some of America's most profitable magazines.

Among other things, the Iraqi concern siphoned off about $10 billion — or 5 per cent of Iraq's oil revenues — for the personal profit of Saddam and his family during the 1980s, according to the Kroll investigation. "This is an organised crime activity that has been going on for a long time," Mr Kroll said on CBS television. "He's put together a network through some very clever colleagues that is as extensive and as far-reaching and as pernicious as we've seen."

Every time Iraq does a deal with Japan, 2.5 per cent of the take goes into a Japanese bank account for Saddam, Kroll found. During the occupation of Kuwait, Iraq stole up to $300 million in luxury cars from Kuwaitis.

Mr Kroll's past successes have included tracing the billions of dollars of assets stashed around the world by the late Ferdinand Marcos, former president of the Philippines. Working for American creditors, Kroll investigators also unravelled a labyrinth of front companies to unearth assets of $100 million, mainly in the Far East, belonging to Adnan Khashoggi, the Saudi financier.

In their capacity as terrorism specialists, Kroll has been involved in the Middle East. Its agents are now working to secure the release of Terry Waite and the other hostages in Lebanon.

Mr Kroll's firm made its name as the modern Pinkertons in the 1980s during the take-over wars that dominated the business world. Under the heading of "due diligence", Kroll specialised in rooting out the secrets of the biggest conglomerates. When Minorco tried to take over Consolidated Goldfields, Kroll's work unearthing Minorco's convoluted South African background was a key factor in the failure of the bid. In 1989, during the struggle for BAT industries, defenders of Sir James Goldsmith asked questions in parliament about the legality of Kroll's actions in Britain.

Saddam troops 'are re-equipping with undamaged tanks'

From SUSAN ELLICOTT IN WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Saddam Hussein's troops, fighting to suppress Iraqi rebels, have been able to re-equip themselves with undamaged tanks and heavy equipment left over from the fighting in the Gulf war, American reports say.

The New York Times claimed yesterday that revised estimates of battlefield damage to Iraqi forces were throwing doubt on the accuracy of intelligence data being used by President Bush as he tries to avoid involving his forces in Iraq's turmoil. Closer examination of military equipment and sites targeted by the allies during the air and ground campaigns has revealed that more armour survived than the US military estimated, according to American officials quoted from Saudi Arabia by the newspaper.

This and other reports show how complicated it has become to build a reliable picture of what is happening inside Iraq and whether Saddam's leadership is likely soon to come under serious threat from a domestic uprising, as Washington hopes. Although some officials told the newspaper that the reassessment of the damage calls into question America's decision to end the ground war after 100 hours, the new figures given by American intelligence agencies to the US Central Command have also raised doubts about other information from the region. The agencies, including the CIA, estimate that 703 Iraqi tanks escaped unharmed from the war, compared to 580 estimated by the American military a month ago. They believe government troops have as many as 1,430 armoured personnel carriers, or about 400 more than initially estimated.

Most of the information released about the rebellions against the Iraqi military has come from sources eager to press their case for political reasons, whether Syrian, Kurdish, Iranian or Iraqi. Yesterday, for the second time in less than a week, an Iraqi opposition group accused forces loyal to Saddam of spraying acid from helicopters on rebels fighting for two Iraqi cities. There was no independent confirmation. A Kurdish opposition group appealed to America for help, saying helicopters and Iraqi bombers had killed or injured many civilians in three raids against the northern cities of Kirkuk and Dhouk.

In addition to these alleged first-hand reports, America has a sophisticated intelligence network ranging from electronic eavesdroppers to spy satellites. But intelligence experts know that even this high-technology is imperfect when situations are changing rapidly and are no longer strictly military. One problem is that few of the rebels have radios and other electronic equipment to pass on communications that can be intercepted.

John Pike, an intelligence analyst at the Federation of American Scientists, said satellites were useful for assessing the capability of an army, such as the build-up of Baghdad's troops near the Kuwaiti border last summer, but could not give a reading on whether the insurgencies by Kurds in northern Iraq or by Iranian-backed Shia forces in the south had widespread support. In the same way as America and its allies failed to determine that Saddam intended to launch a full invasion of his neighbour, the intelligence available provided a sketch of the rebels' position but not their "political state of mind", he said. He said that intelligence in the region was only "bringing in bits and pieces".

The Pentagon has released only vague assessments of heavy fighting in the north and south. Its reluctance to give more detailed accounts appears, at least in part, to stem from the Bush administration's refusal to take sides with the groups fighting against the Iraqi military as they try to draw America into the conflict. According to *The Washington Post* yesterday, army intelligence analysts have issued a warning that the rebels could ambush or kidnap American soldiers in an attempt to draw in American forces. The newspaper also said that electronic eavesdroppers had picked up conversations between Iraqi military pilots and commanders suggesting that some troops were split about the suppression of the rebellions.

Light shift: Glenn Lavergne, from Louisiana, welding a boom part to be used to cap oil-well fires at al-Ahmadi, Kuwait, where black smog makes 10am seem like midnight

British wife tells of ten-day trek to escape from Iraq

By NICHOLAS WATT

A FAMILY endured a ten-day trek, by foot, donkey and hitch-hiking, to escape from Iraq after they were stranded there before the war.

Margaret Ali escaped with her three young children and her Iraqi husband after the Iraqis refused to let them leave after they attended a funeral five years ago, BBC television news reported. They tried to leave twice during the war, but finally managed to escape 12 days ago. They used unmarked roads and crossed the Euphrates outside Nasiriyah.

During their 400-mile journey, Mrs Ali disguised herself as an Arab woman in a black shawl and the children, who speak only English, were told to keep quiet at checkpoints. She said that language had been a great worry. "If one single person heard English they would say: 'What's this English woman?'"

Her husband told the BBC: "We changed our clothes so many times. We have been sleeping in woods and everything to get out." John, aged seven, the oldest boy, described his journey. "I rode on a donkey as well. There was a bridge crushed by a bomb and we had to go in the water in a boat."

When they reached the southern area of Iraq, which is under allied military occupation, with the muddy belongings they had brought from Babylon, they were given a lift by troops in a military convoy to Safwan, the southern border town. They went to the British embassy in Kuwait where Larry Banks, the consul, cooked a supper of baked beans and sausages. Mrs Ali phoned her family in Birmingham from the embassy's bullet-scarred communications room.

Mrs Ali described life in Iraq. "I don't call it living. It's just surviving. We just came to the point where we could not take any more. Out of the blue would suddenly come a whole load of shooting."

Her husband said there had been fighting throughout the night in Babylon. The Iraqis shot people without question if they were caught on the streets during the dusk to dawn curfew.

Arafat tries to revive fortunes with peace offer

From JONATHAN WRIGHT IN TUNIS

YASSIR Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, after months in the international wilderness because of his support for Iraq, has resumed his peace offensive, adding what his office calls a substantial territorial concession to Israel.

In an interview with the Canadian newspaper, the *Toronto Star*, he said that the PLO would accept a United Nations buffer zone on the Palestine side of the border between Israel and a future Palestinian state. The UN troops could stay there indefinitely, he added. The offer was part of a new PLO negotiating position apparently designed to restore the organisation's credibility in the United States and other Western countries.

Many American politicians say Mr Arafat forfeited the right to take part in talks on the future of the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip because of his strong support for President Saddam Hussein of Iraq in the Gulf conflict. European officials, especially in France and Italy, are more cautious, accepting the Palestinian view that only the Palestinians can choose their representatives.

Mr Arafat's proposals are based on the position the PLO adopted at a landmark meeting of the Palestine National Council, the Palestinian parliament-in-exile, in November 1988. The council accepted a solution based on a small Palestinian state, living in peace alongside Israel.

But the proposals add new details to reassure Israel of the PLO's peaceful intentions. Apart from the buffer zone, the PLO is offering temporary demilitarisation of a Palestinian state and possible territorial adjustments to compensate for a corridor linking the Palestinian West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr Arafat's proposals, as spelled out by his office in a statement yesterday, are that:

☐ A Palestinian state could be demilitarised for a transitional period of six months, with UN troops replacing Israeli forces;

☐ The issue of a corridor between Gaza and the West Bank is negotiable;

☐ Mr Arafat wants Jewish members in his cabinet and would accept Jews who wish to leave Israel and become Palestinian citizens;

☐ There must be compensation for Palestinian property in Israel;

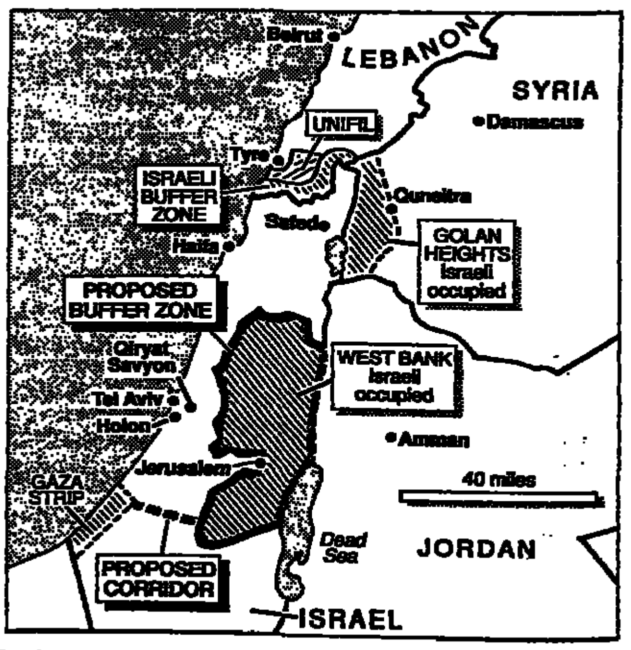
☐ East Jerusalem should belong to Palestine, according to UN resolutions;

☐ Once a state is established, Palestinians and Jordanians would vote freely on the issue of confederation;

● Jewish settlers in the occupied territories must leave, according to UN resolutions.

Mr Arafat's office said these were negotiating positions and not preconditions for talks. "So let us start sitting at the table. If there is a will, there is a way," Mr Arafat told the Canadian newspaper.

Israel refuses to talk to the PLO, saying it is a terrorist organisation secretly committed to the destruction of the Jewish state, and it rejects the idea of a Palestinian state. The Israeli government also insists on holding on to east Jerusalem, which it annexed in 1967, and maintains that it has the right to expand Jewish settlement in the occupied territories. Mr Arafat said America held the key to bringing Israel to the negotiating table. *(Reuter)*



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Diplomatic spotlight focuses on Golan Heights

From CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN QUNEITRA

THE strategic Golan Heights have been brought back to centre stage as the most likely piece of Israeli-held territory for a compromise in the talks on the possible exchange of land for peace.

Speculation that President Bush intends to include Syria and Israel on his planned Middle East visit has refocused attention on the area, conquered by Israeli tanks in 1967. A third was returned to Syria in 1974 after skilful negotiating by Henry Kissinger. Two-thirds remain in Israeli hands after being annexed by Menachem Begin, the former prime minister, in 1981.

Recent remarks by Ehud Olmert, the health minister, and Lieutenant-General Dan Shomron, the retiring chief of staff, have revived hopes that an agreement to negotiate over the Golan Heights is feasible, although both men have been rebuffed by Yitzhak Shamir, the prime minister, and other right-wingers in the cabinet.

Intelligence reports of secret contacts between Damascus and Jerusalem over the future of the Golan Heights have been circulating for several months. Behind the rhetoric, it is accepted that both sides have softened their positions.

"It will not be something quick, but my feeling is that if a way is to be found for an agreement between Israel and the Arabs, it will probably start here," said a senior United Nations officer. "The model for making peace already exists and it works well. Even during the recent Gulf war, there was remarkably little military tension between the two sides here."

Although Israeli and Syrian troops are only 500 yards apart in some places, and the few Syrians who have moved back to Quneitra, which was flattened by an Israeli scorched-earth policy ten days before being handed back, can watch Jewish settlers at work on land they believe is theirs, there is no feeling of imminent conflict. The mood is one of rural calm. Last year, there were about 3,000 violations of the 1974 treaty, but the majority were caused by shepherds looking for better grazing. Under the treaty, a list of clauses restricts the number of tanks, weapons and men which the two sides can station at any time, in three different zones stretching back 18 miles on either side in which no missiles are permitted. The Syrians are allowed to let civilians into Quneitra again, but have refused.

"The potential exists for the area to be turned into a demilitarised zone with the two-thirds held by Israel being handed over under a similar type of agreement to that negotiated after the 1973 war," the UN officer said. "But one sticking point could always be water, which is so sensitive a subject that it is rarely raised in public."

The Syrians have been doing their best to prevent water, which collects on land they control, finding its way to Israel. "Any agreement about lasting peace in the Golan Heights would have to take the explosive issue of water into account. That could prove the stumbling block," said a Western military expert.

The changing face of Middle Eastern warfare, and thus the changing requirements of security for Israel, was demonstrated on the Golan Heights during the Gulf war. On 24 occasions, Finnish UN troops had to don gas masks and take cover during alerts caused by Iraqi Scud missiles.

Syria is expected to push for any negotiations over the area to be held only in the context of attempts to reach a broader Middle East peace embracing the Palestinians. Israeli hardliners will strive to prevent any Jerusalem government conceding any territory giving Israel an advantage in any future war with Syria.

The change in thinking, reflected by General Shomron, is something American experts are likely to seize on. "I want to say that a political arrangement, when it exists, is far more than territory. It is linked to limiting weapons, supervision of one country over (another) country. It involves many things. Thus if you are talking about countries at war, without a doubt, territory has very great significance. But when you talk about other types of arrangements, it is clear that these include various elements which diminish the threat and offer the possibility, for example, of long-range early warning."

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Parliament prepares to ban Soviet mine strike

From Bruce Clark in Moscow

SOVIET authorities appeared last night to be on a collision course with hundreds of thousands of striking miners, as parliament prepared to order them back to work and a minister proposed a ban on all industrial action with harsh penalties for offenders.

The mounting conflict further poisoned the political atmosphere ahead of Thursday's Congress of the Russian Federation, to be chaired by the territory's leader, Boris Yeltsin, whose political battle with President Gorbachev is fiercely backed by many miners.

The government yesterday banned all demonstrations in central Moscow during the Congress, overruling the radical city council which had authorised the holding next to Red Square of a mass meeting by Yeltsin supporters to coincide with the assembly's opening. Mr Gorbachev has also called for tough measures to guarantee law and order during the Congress, and security around Red Square had already started to tighten yesterday.

The proposal for a mandatory two-month halt to the pit strikes came from a backbench deputy, Vladimir Samarin, but it appeared to enjoy the support of the Soviet cabinet, which had earlier met for several hours to discuss the strike.

Mr Samarin's initial resolution, which cited the "incalculable, disastrous upheaval" that the strike was causing the Soviet economy, was endorsed in principle by 248 deputies, or 22 short of the necessary quorum, and opposed by 59. A revised version will be presented for the legislature's approval today.

The justice minister, Sergei Lushikov, in an astonishingly hard-line speech, said the current labour law providing for a two-month mandatory halt to strikes was not sufficiently tough, and that ways must be found to prevent stoppages in all sectors.

He suggested that violators of strike bans should be punished by recording an interruption in their official work record, so that they would forfeit their right to extra leave and bonuses for long service. They should also lose their allowances for work in harsh conditions.

Mr Lushikov also suggested that enterprises harmed by stoppages should be compensated from the striking enterprises' social insurance fund, or from the funds of trade unions which supported the action.

An offer by the prime minister, Valentin Pavlov, to meet strike leaders was dismissed by a strike organiser in the Kuzbass region of Siberia, who retorted that the only person they wanted to see was Mr Gorbachev, the man whose resignation they are demanding.

The standoff between the government and the miners will exacerbate the already tense atmosphere at the Congress of the Russian Republic opening on Thursday under the chairmanship of Boris Yeltsin, whom many of the strikers ardently support.

Miners from all over the country plan to gather in Moscow the previous day for a three-day strategy meeting to define their political demands.

Plea for dictator's jailed son

From Tim Judah
in Bucharest

PAULA Iacob, the lawyer for Nico Ceausescu, son of the executed Romanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, claimed yesterday that her client was "gravely ill" and that the prison authorities were defying a court order by refusing to let him go to hospital. "He is appealing against his 20-year sentence," she said, "and especially now that the authorities won't let him go to hospital he won't live to see the appeal through to the end."

Mrs Iacob was speaking after a military tribunal had jailed 15 former top communist politicians for their part in the attempt to suppress the Romanian revolution of December 1989. The 15, all members of Nicolae Ceausescu's politburo, were convicted of "aiding and abetting" the dictator and of firearms charges. They received sentences of up to five and a half years. Four received suspended sentences. Six other defendants were acquitted.

Mrs Iacob, who represents three of the politburo members, said she was "very happy" with yesterday's outcome to the long-running trial because the original charge of "genocide" had been dropped. She would be appealing on behalf of two of her clients who were convicted, including Stefan Andrei, Romania's former foreign minister, who was jailed for two years and 10 months. As she discussed his fate, Mrs Iacob produced photographs of Mr Andrei shaking hands with Mrs Thatcher and President Bush.

Yesterday's short sentences and acquittals reflect the fact that evidence to convict the former politburo on more serious charges was lacking. The prosecution said a collective decision to fire on anti-government demonstrators was taken on December 17, 1989 but the testimony heard in court suggested that the politburo members mostly said nothing as Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu screamed and hectored them during the meeting.

Soldiers' farewell: Generals Mircha Monstantinescu, left, of Romania, Penyu Kostadinov (Bulgaria), Vladimir Lyebov (Soviet Union), Robert Seles (Hungary) and Michal Gondech (Czechoslovia) yesterday at their last meeting before the Warsaw Pact is dissolved on March 31

80,000 protest in Leipzig as jobless numbers rise

From Anne McElvoy in Berlin

MORE than 80,000 people took to the streets of Leipzig last night in the largest demonstrations there since the fall of the communist regime to protest at rising unemployment and mass redundancies in eastern Germany.

The number of participants has grown by 30,000 in the last week as the mood in the east worsens. The finance minister, Theo Waigel, admitted for the first time at the weekend that the east German economy was now "in crisis".

The Leipzig protests are a symbolic repetition of the traditional Monday demonstrations in the city in 1989. The marchers followed the traditional route from the central square around the city centre chanting: "No more deceit" and "Close down the closers down" as they called for an end to Bonn's policy of speedy privatisation which has led to a rapid rise in unemployment.

Several speakers called on the government to hold new elections, claiming that they had been the victims of false electoral promises. Crowds applauded a succession of speakers who blamed Helmut Kohl, the chancellor, for the economic decline.

Further marches were also held in Dresden, Berlin and Chemnitz as well as other industrial towns. More than 100,000 people are thought to have demonstrated throughout the evening.

In Bonn, there was a mixed reaction to the swelling protests with Rudolf Seiters, the minister who heads the chancellor's office, saying yesterday that the demonstrations were not a fitting response to the region's malaise. "They are more likely to put off much needed investors than attract them," he said.

Gunter Krause, the transport minister, and one of only three east Germans in the cabinet, suggested that the unrest might have its roots in a communist backlash. "I am referring to former Stasi employees," he said. Herr Kohl, however, has said that he has "every understanding" for the frustration throughout the east and intends to speak there after Easter.

Waigel: admitted that the economy was "in crisis"

The mass circulation newspaper *Bild* yesterday began publication of the names, addresses and salaries of 1,000 state security "officers with special tasks" who were infiltrated by the Stasi into senior positions in East Germany's institutions and economy.

The officers, whose existence was only revealed after the fall of the regime, earned up to £10,000 a year on top of their usual salaries for informing on and influencing the organisations they worked for. Last week the east Berlin newspaper *Die Andere* published the names and salaries of the service's top earners.

● **FRANKFURT:** The economic crisis in eastern Germany can only be solved by an all-party consensus reached by bringing political groups, unions and employers around one table, according to Norbert Walter, chief economist at Deutsche Bank.

"There is no alternative. We have to bring all groups together to find a solution", he said. His proposal harks back to the concept of "concerted action" which dominated West German economic policy in the late 1960s before trade unions rejected the idea in the 1970s. *(Reuter)*

Long-lost Trojan treasure found

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

THE recovery of the Trojan treasures reported at the weekend by two Soviet art historians will be greeted by archaeologists with relief, as they have long feared that the precious objects have been melted down for bullion.

The finds can now be subjected to detailed scientific analysis: most of the techniques of modern archaeological science, including the matching of metals to their sources and the precise reconstruction of manufacturing techniques, have been developed since King Priam's Treasure vanished in 1945.

The disclosures about the treasure and other works of art were made by two Soviet art historians writing in a New York art magazine. "The decision to keep them in the Soviet Union was made by the Stalin government, and throughout the years of the Cold War their existence was routinely denied by the Soviets," Konstantin Akinsha and Grigori Kozlov wrote. "For the first time since the second world war, high-ranking cultural officials are discussing the possibility of opening the secret depositories. A special commission has been established within the ministry of culture to report on the matter." The treasures, first found by the 19th-century archeologist Heinrich Schliemann, are among the most significant collections of early bronze age gold and silver known.

Schliemann thought he had found Homer's Trojan war treasure, but the items are now known to date from more than a thousand years before the legendary war — if it ever occurred. They include a copper shield which reminded Schliemann irresistibly of the "sevenfold, brass-bound, mighty shield" of Ajax. A cauldron seemed to match the *lebes* given as a prize at funeral games.

Other pieces include "a globular bottle of the purest gold, weighing 403 grammes, nearly six inches high" a cup likewise of the purest gold, in the form of a ship with two large handles, with two mouths. There were "six pieces of the purest silver in the form of large knife-blades". Schliemann thought it "extremely probable that these are the Homeric talents", pointing out that they must have been small because "when Achilles offers for the first prize a woman, for the second a horse, the third a cauldron", the fourth prize was two gold talents.

In the bottom of the largest silver vase Schliemann found "two splendid gold diadems and four beautiful gold earrings of most exquisite workmanship", covered by a further 56 earrings and nearly 9,000 small gold rings and other jewels.

With characteristic panache, in one of the most famous photographs of his enormous archive, Schliemann dressed his beautiful young Greek wife, Sofia, in the diadems and necklaces from King Priam's treasure. Since the objects vanished nearly half a century ago in the fall of Berlin, these pictures and Schliemann's detailed descriptions, have been all that achaeologists have had to work with.

Albanian police break up crowd

Durres — Albanian riot police fired into the air and used their truncheons yesterday to disperse hundreds of would-be emigrants who flocked to this western port in the hope of fleeing to Italy.

Dozens of riot police swept through the streets, dragging off anyone they suspected of trying to board a ship leaving the tiny communist state. Police beat several people before bundling them into a lorry. Passers-by huddled for cover in shops and doorways as police chased stone-throwing youths from the town centre, drumming on their riot shields with truncheons.

It was the first outbreak of violence in Durres since the communist authorities put the harbour under military control two weeks ago in an attempt to end a flood of about 20,000 refugees to Italy in commandeered boats. Residents said hundreds of people had arrived in the town on Sunday after hearing rumours that two foreign ships were due in port. Army patrols at the port were tightened and no vehicles were allowed to pass through the barbed-wire cordons which now surround the harbour. *(Reuter)*

Rebel 'success'

Peshawar, Pakistan — Afghan mujahidin rebels say they have destroyed two cargo aircraft and claimed advances around the garrison town of Khost, where a hundred guerrillas have died in 11 days of fighting. Since their March 14 offensive began, the rebels claim to have overrun dozens of security posts. *(AFP)*

Governor dies

Sydney — Sir John Kerr, Australia's most controversial governor-general, whose dismissal of the Labour government of Gough Whitlam in 1975 was bitterly resented, has died in Sydney from a brain tumour. His funeral was private to avoid demonstrations.

Obituary, page 14

Cigarette ruling

Washinton — America's supreme court has decided to settle a long-running dispute between smokers and the tobacco industry by ruling next year on whether the mandatory health warnings on cigarette packs protect manufacturers from personal injury lawsuits by people with lung cancer linked to smoking.

28 die in crash

Delhi — Twenty-eight Indian air force personnel were killed when an Avro plane crashed soon after taking off at Yelakanka air force base near the southern city of Bangalore. The dead included three crew members and air force cadet technical officers who were on an air experience sortie.

Enquiry call on township deaths

From Gavin Bell in Johannesburg

ANGRY leaders of the African National Congress have demanded a judicial commission of enquiry into an incident at the weekend in which 12 township dwellers, including two children, were killed and 30 wounded by police gunfire. A police sergeant was hacked to death with pangas and knives, and two colleagues were injured during the clash between 53 policemen and more than 200 residents of Daveyton, east of Johannesburg.

In conflicting accounts, the police said they had acted in self-defence after being attacked with firearms, petrol bombs and spears, while the ANC said the police had opened fire without warning, or provocation.

The police have begun an internal inquiry, and President de Klerk said yesterday that the incident would be investigated. However, the ANC, accusing the police of savagery, called for an independent inquiry and for the suspension of those involved pending its findings.

The confrontation took place after a crowd of Xhosa-speaking residents gathered on an area of open ground, known locally as Beirut, about three miles from a sports stadium where Zulu supporters of the Inkatha Freedom Party were holding a rally to mark the opening of a branch in the township.

According to ANC officials, the Inkatha members had violated an agreement with community leaders by marching to the stadium brandishing spears, axes and whips, and "concerned residents", fearing an attack, had assembled to discuss the situation. Both sides agree that police who arrived at the scene gave the crowd ten minutes to disperse, but each claim the other was responsible for the ensuing mayhem. The ANC said that police emerging from two armoured vehicles opened fire without warning, as the group leaders discussed the order for them to leave. The dead included a boy, aged 12 and a girl, aged nine, who had been some distance away.

A police spokesman said the crowd surged forward, throwing petrol bombs and wielding other weapons. "They singled out a white police sergeant who was stabbed several times .. The police had no choice, under circumstances of imminent danger to their lives, but to fire at the attackers who were within metres of them." He added that police later confiscated an array of weapons, including a revolver, spears and clubs.

A paramedic at the scene gave a similar account. "Shots were fired at us from within the crowd, and the policemen returned the fire while they waited for reinforcements," he said. "*Assegais* (spears) were thrown at us. I saw a sergeant trip and fall as the mob moved towards us. He was surrounded and attacked with knives and pangas (machetes). I fought my way through the crowd to get him, and managed to get him into a police vehicle. He was bleeding profusely from 11 wounds and died before we could get him to hospital."

The clash was the worst of its kind this year involving security forces trying to control an incipient civil war between ANC and Inkatha supporters.

Free election in Benin ousts strongman

By Andrew Lycett and Our Foreign Staff

THE West African state of Benin, which until two years ago was firmly marxist-leninist, has a new president. Nicephore Soglo, the prime minister, a Paris-trained economist who used to work for the World Bank, has won the country's first free presidential elections for more than 20 years, overcoming near-impossible odds to defeat an incumbent African president.

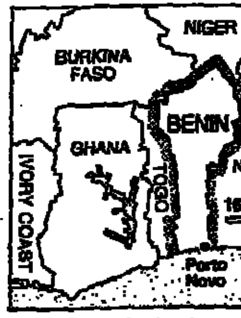
An electoral official said yesterday that Mr Soglo had taken an irreversible lead over President Kerekou. Official confirmation of the result is due today and Mr Soglo, aged 56, is expected to take office on April 1.The strongarm military leader is the first African leader to lose power through the ballot box after seizing it through a coup.

Further north, in Mali, a general strike called by pro-democracy groups paralysed all but vital services yesterday as pressure increased on President Traore to resign after three days of riots in which at least 150 people are reported to have died. The government says just 27 died.

Trade union leaders said the strike was 100 per cent effective. Sources said the strike will go on until the president steps down. Health services, however, were working overtime dealing with the casualties of the riots, which were countered by the military. More than 1,000 people were reported wounded.

Shots were heard at Bamako central prison after the release of a first group of demonstrators arrested by security forces during the riots. Justice ministry officials said guards had used guns to prevent an escape by other inmates. Drissa Traore, a prominent member of the opposition, said 24 prisoners had been freed in Bamako and more would be released shortly.

In an interview with French television and in a speech on Malian television, General Traore said he would serve out his presidential term, which ends in June. He said the congress of Mali's single party, the Democratic Union of the Malian People, later this week would be a congress of innovation and he asserted that he was open to dialogue.



The events in Benin and Mali are linked to the winds of change which started blowing through Africa around the time of the breaching of the Berlin Wall. Fanned by News of the overthrow of East European dictatorships provided an example to young West Africans with little prospect of employment.

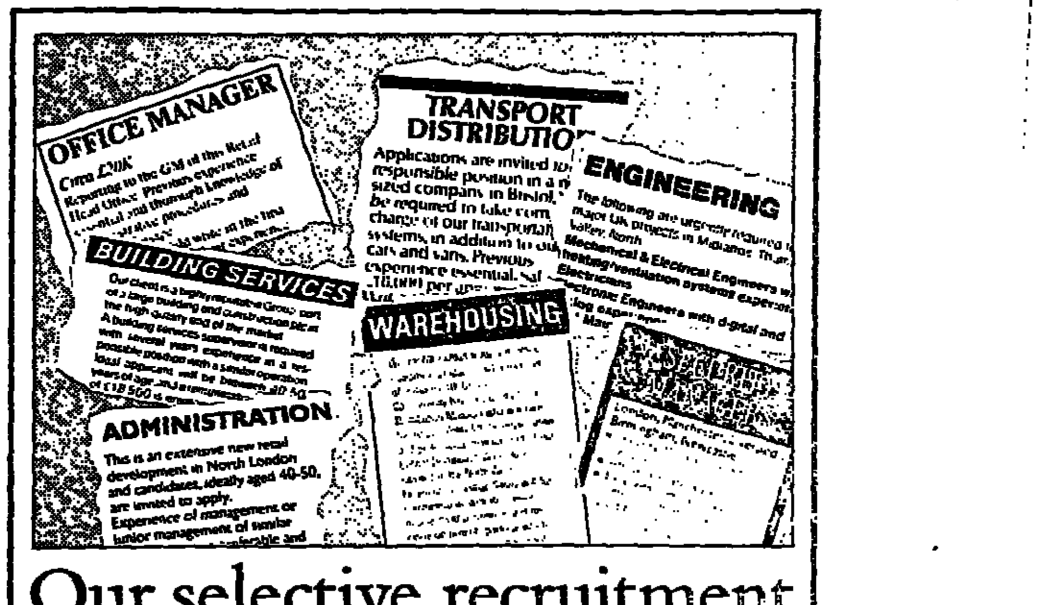
It coincided with a change of policy towards Africa in France, which decided to promote its brand of "Paris-troika". At the Franco-Africa summit last June, President Mitterrand spoke of the need for democracy in Africa. "France will link its financial contributions to efforts designed to lead to greater democracy," he said.

A lot has since happened under the smokescreen of the Gulf war. In Zaire, Cameroon, Gabon and Congo, rulers have elected or, in some cases, been chivvied into adopting political pluralism. Where leaders have resisted, as in the Central African Republic and the Ivory Coast, not so discreet pressure has been exerted from Paris.

In Benin, the people quickly seized the opportunity to topple Lenin's statues. Mr Soglo, after becoming prime minister in an interim government last February, quickly made his mark. He slashed the government payroll, which had grown from about 9,900 to 47,000 employees during President Kerekou's 19 years in office. He also sought out corruption, rejuvenating a commission established to investigate illicit earnings by managers of state enterprises.

In Mali, President Traore took a different approach. President Mitterrand's call for democracy last year coincided with a rebellion among the veiled Tuareg nomads of northern Mali. President Troare used the insurrection as an excuse to avoid political liberalisation. Tanks and troops were committed to the north.

Students seized on the absence of the troops from the capital to press their demands for democracy. But the ceasefire in January allowed President Troare to recall his soldiers and to turn them against his opponents.



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TT 3/91

Bring back the poll tax

Woodrow Wyatt

Mrs Thatcher's strength was her strength. "If the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?" The Tory trumpets have suddenly become cacophonous. What looked a reasonably coherent orchestra willing to work with a new conductor now seems bewildered by not knowing whether the tunes it is asked to play are the old familiar ones with slight variations or scores which bear scant resemblance to them.

Mr Lamont has made credible arguments that his Budget was broadly in line with Thatcherite principles. The rising borrowing requirement is not a lurch to profligate public spending but a consequence of recession. Lower profits mean substantially lower revenues from corporation tax. Lower spending by individuals reduces the tax collectable on what they otherwise might have bought. Mr Lamont's largely neutral Budget, coming from a Chancellor whose previous job in the cabinet, as chief secretary, was to curb public spending, does not herald a slide to extravagance.

His 2½ per cent increase on VAT is in the Thatcherite tradition. The higher the indirect taxation the greater the possibility of lowering the standard rate of income tax. Now begins the confusion. Is the extra VAT revenue intended as a temporary respite for community charge payers to soften hostility in the run-up to an election? Or will it be a permanent way of financing that relatively small part of local government spending not already funded by central government (about 20-25 per cent)? If it is the latter it is bad news made worse by Mr Heseltine's apparent wish to change the community charge into a combination of head counts and a local tax on the value of properties.

Thatcher: never afraid to do the necessary

At the Conservative Central Council meeting in Southport on Friday, Mr Heseltine got a hostile reception. This has been discounted on the grounds that the Tory party dislikes assassins. If the government believes this explanation it will go seriously awry. In the second round of November's leadership contest, all three candidates assumed the government's main problem with the electorate was the community charge. They promised a root and branch reform of it. They were so busy angling for the votes of the narrow constituency of the Conservative parliamentary party that they forgot the far wider constituency of their party activists. They deluded themselves into believing that the community charge was an albatross at the very moment that it was beginning to turn into a far more attractive bird.

In Southport a Hertfordshire councillor, Diana Everall, was cheered when she claimed the government could have saved the community charge by relieving hardships under it with half the money now allocated to it from the VAT increase. If this had been done, "all the bitterness and anxiety which exists around this poll tax affair might not have happened." At the grass roots, thousands of Tories have laboured to promote the virtues of the community charge, with its pressure on local councils to be more efficient and less careless with local voters' money or risk being thrown out. Conservative councils following this course, such as Westminster and Wandsworth, have won the gratitude of local electorates. Many Labour councils have been cutting their community charges for the same reason, without impairing the quality of the service.

The community charge has proved no more difficult to collect than the rates, nor is getting court orders against non-payers any harder. Mr Robert Key MP, parliamentary under-secretary of state in the environment department, wrote to me on March 19: "The latest indications are that 85 per cent of charge payers, in all types of authority, have made payments of their community charge. Some authorities are doing especially well with payments being received from over 90 per cent of people on their registers. In some cases the levels of collection appear to be lower because of problems with computer software. However, there is no evidence that the 'don't pay' campaigners have had any significant effect."

Mrs Thatcher is an astute politician. She knew that the rough edges on the community charge had to be softened to increase its acceptability. This is very different from rubbishing the charge as this government has been doing and so undermining it, to the consternation of those loyal Tories now told that all their efforts were a waste of time. If the Tory leadership is to recapture the enthusiasm that Mrs Thatcher engendered at last October's Tory conference, it must understand the public will see the refusal to back the principles of the community charge as a shallow attempt at vote-catching, which will provoke rejection in the polling booths.

The 204 out of 372 Tory MPs who voted for Mrs Thatcher to remain leader were aware that the country voted her in three times because she was never afraid to do necessary but initially unpopular things. There is a powerful element among the 204 who, while supporting Mr Major, are determined that a winning formula is not turned into a blurred fudge which makes the Conservative party less distinguishable from the Labour party. Hence the No Turning Back group and last week's launch of the new Conservative Way Forward.

Mr Major's honeymoon with the voters may not have ended, but there is not so much romantic sunshine-by-the-sea as there was. There is a suspicion that the quiet young hero may not be so purposeful as he appeared to the bride when she first happily took him into her arms. The desire to heal splits with emollient words is understandable, but it is not possible to be all things to all men in the Tory party, let alone in the country at large. The more Mr Major proclaims he strongly embraces the principles of his predecessor, including the community charge, the more probable his success.

Dogmatic theories have been replaced by an attempt to understand and inform, says **Howard Newby**

Sociology comes in from the cold

This week, the British Sociological Association celebrates its 40th anniversary at its annual conference in Manchester. The latter-day *enfant terrible* of the social sciences has come a long way since the 1960s, yet the belief – virtually unique to this country – that sociology is no more than a meretricious veneer on radical politics still lingers.

Hence the amusement to be had from newspaper comments on the appointment of Viscount Runciman of Doxford to chair the Royal Commission on the Criminal Justice System. Garry Runciman is a successful businessman and a former deputy chairman of Lloyd's. He is also one of Britain's leading sociologists. Some media profiles struggled to reconcile these two apparently incompatible categories. Thus Runciman was described variously as a "social scientist" and a "philosopher", almost anything but that dreaded S-word.

Runciman's career as a sociologist has followed a trajectory similar to that of the discipline as a whole. His first major work, at the Institute of Community Studies in Bethnal Green, was a study of poverty and social justice. It was based upon an extensive national survey and followed, in a modern idiom, the famous studies of Booth and Rowntree, which established the British tradition of empirical sociology. The identification of a social problem was accompanied by detailed empirical enquiry, from which social policies were to be formulated. The tenor was liberal, progressive, Fabian, but never Marxist.

During the 1970s, British sociology moved away from its strengths. Over-compensating for a perceived lack (especially in comparison with the Continent), it indulged in an orgy of theorising, which became ever more speculative and distanced from the real world. The process was not entirely negative, but the cost was high, not merely because of the public image touted by Malcolm Bradbury, but because of a lack of information about what was happening in society.

Over the last 10 years British sociology has moved back towards its empirical roots, but it has found its links with policy formation severed. In the Thatcher era of conviction politics, the whole panoply of social enquiry linked to public policy was cast aside.

"There is no such thing as society," announced Margaret Thatcher, and although she may have said this in the context of assigning moral responsibility for the actions of individuals, the epithet stuck as an omnibus condemnation of social science. So British sociology found itself with little influence on policy in a period when it was undergoing intellectual rehabilitation.

Modestly and patiently, sociologists began to reconstruct their knowledge base about Britain. Keeping a finger on the pulse of change in a large and complex, post-industrial society is a difficult task. The job has been made easier, however, by cheap and accessible information technology. Main databases, whether funded publicly (like the General Household Survey) or privately (like the British Social Attitudes Survey) provide rich source material for researchers and policy-makers.

Who, though, is listening to what the sociologists have to say? Fortunately, there are signs that the climate is changing. In a speech in 1989, Mrs Thatcher recalled that as a young politician she believed that all social ills could be removed by giving everyone a higher standard of living and a good education. Yet now the problems of public disorder, drug addiction, child abuse and marital breakdown appear to be on the increase.

Sociology alone cannot solve these problems, and it should not engage in social engineering (the conceit of the 1960s), but it can provide the information on which options for policy can be better evaluated. Its role is humble, but vital nevertheless: to enable more informed policy choices to be made.

But sociology should also provide understanding. Knowledge about *why* society operates as it does is a vital component of an open democratic society. One need look no further than Eastern Europe to recognise this. Sociologists have a duty to explain as well as to inform, but the value of sociology will only be seen if its explanations are couched in a language the public can understand.

John Major has declared his commitment to a classless society. The social market is being embraced by all the major political parties. The management of Britain's public services is moving steadily up the political agenda. So is the question of how to harness human resources to technological and environmental change. These are all issues on which sociology can provide much needed information and understanding. The next decade will be full of opportunities for a modernised British sociology to fulfil its potential. Life can begin after forty.

The author is chairman of the Economic and Social Research Council.

Nine-tenths of the law?

Mark Almond asks if art treasures plundered from the Nazis should be returned to Germany

Who are the rightful owners of the long-lost art treasures taken from the ruins of Hitler's Reich in 1945, which the Soviet authorities have just revealed are in their possession? If the issue of the ownership of the Elgin Marbles can generate a small publishing industry, then Heinrich Schliemann's discovery, "Priam's Treasure", will certainly keep the scribes busy. Who is entitled to it: the Germans who found it and preserved it on the Museum Island in Berlin, or the Greeks whose alleged ancestors plundered fallen Troy, or the Turks whose forefathers conquered both the site of Troy and the Greeks? Even Rome might put in a claim, since Virgil tells us the city was founded by the descendants of exiles from Troy.

The Soviet authorities have recently returned hundreds of recordings made in Germany before 1945 by the great classical musicians who worked in Hitler's Germany. Nobody disputes their provenance, and before long they should appear as CDs. The recordings are both aesthetically and historically important. Fürtwangler's discography, for example, will be enormously expanded. Whereas the British developed stereophonics to help in the hunt for U-boats, the Germans used it to record Herbert von Karajan's interpretation of Bruckner's 8th symphony. If Moscow can return these recordings, the new Germany must hope for the return of the museum pieces too.

The commercial provenance of many of the paintings can easily be traced, from the patrons who commissioned them, through subsequent sales and resales, to 1945, when they were lodged in a German museum, or rather bunker. But part of the material is undoubtedly plunder, some of it booty which has changed hands many times before.

Trojan treasures: Dr and Mrs Schliemann, with her in Helen of Troy's headdress

The Nazis were not the first victors to seize artistic booty. Hitler's henchmen from the museums and the keepers of his personal collection often justified their depredations by reference to Napoleon's seizure of Italian treasures in the 1790s or the British capture of Napoleon's abandoned loot from Egypt. After the Congress of Vienna, the Italian states recovered much of what they had lost, but only because the victorious allies wanted to punish the French for supporting Napoleon in the Hundred Days. No principle of restitution to the legitimate owners was established, and the Venetians did not feel obliged to return the Bronze Horses in front of St Mark's to Constantinople; nor were the Turks in any position to go and fetch them. In any case, the Venetians had seized them 250 years before Mehmet conquered the last bastion of the Eastern Roman empire.

The horrors of the Nazis went further than any of their conquering predecessors. It is one thing to confiscate the treasures of a defeated state or fallen prince, but to seize the private property of his subjects is another matter, particularly when they are then murdered in cold blood. (The British Army occasionally gave the order to loot when an enemy town or village had not surrendered promptly, but maltreatment of civilians and theft of their property were usually forbidden – though they did happen.) The Nazis gave themselves free rein in their revival of the archaic practices of enslavement and plunder.

Despite being in so many ways the modern incarnation of barbarism, the Nazis were not simple vandals. On the contrary, considerable personnel and lavish funds were allocated to the expropriation of whatever took their fancy. As befitted a failed applicant to the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts, Hitler's tastes were not entirely uninformed, though they were conservative, so he got the pick of the Old Masters. By contrast, Hermann Goering, who saw himself as a Renaissance prince (admittedly more a Borgia than a Lorenzo de Medici) had a private preference for "degenerate" or dangerously modern art. Some paintings, if not their creators and legal owners, survived because of Goering's caprice. They were thought to have been lost in the destruction of his fantasy hunting-lodge, Karinhall, but they too may be in the Soviet Union.

Do the Germans deserve to get everything back? Clearly, many of the paintings were obtained by German princely families and museums through patronage and purchase. But the rights of the victor have usually permitted him to seize what takes his fancy: is there a museum in any of the ex-imperial powers that is not filled with booty taken or retaken from the vanquished?

Righting the original injustice is usually impossible. Most of those who today demand the restitution of what they consider to be their cultural heritage are the heirs of the conquerors of earlier owners. Their only claim is that the British or the French, say, were the last to despoil the territory of the state. The doctrine of restitution is a charter for unrepentant and obdurate colonists against those who have renounced empire.

In the West at least, what most people mean when they talk about the sacrosanct national heritage is that they like looking at beautiful old things and have become accustomed to doing so. We have become so used to well-stocked museums that we regard their existence for our pleasure and study as a right. But in the vanquished territories, articulate people (usually educated in Western academies) have learnt to claim their "right" to a national heritage too. Sometimes the rhetoric of restitution has an eerie echo of the language of the plunderers themselves, as when Melina Mercouri referred a few years ago to the Elgin Marbles as part of "my blood and soil".

The reunited Germans have one great advantage over the ex-colonial world when it comes to reclaiming "their" heritage: Germany is rich. Rather than fight endless battles in the American courts, for instance, over possession of the exquisite medieval ivory reliquary from Quedlinburg pocketed by a Texan soldier in the summer of 1945, the German authorities payed his heirs a handsome finder's fee, generously relieving them of any inherited guilt for the theft.

The Soviet Union may be expecting compensation for its willingness to return priceless treasures: not a fee, perhaps, but a hard currency loan would be welcome. At any rate, the public relations bonus will be valuable to the Soviet government's waning prestige. The lesson for disappointed would-be guardians of a denuded heritage seems to be that everything comes to them that have, so make sure you are rich and powerful.

The author is a fellow of Oriel College, Oxford.

...and moreover

ALAN COREN

I have bought the paint. It is called Prussian Sky, but it is not as militant as it sounds: a bright blue, yes, but an unprovocative one. We are out to persuade, not to incense.

I have not yet bought the placards, though. Much research has to be undertaken before I do, we shall have several meetings on this topic alone, set up a Placard Committee, possibly even a Pole Steering Group. Once, that is, we have decided on the form of procession. If we are going to march on foot, we shall be able to have long poles and large placards, though we shall have to bear in mind that many of our number will be knocking on a bit; too big a placard, too long a pole, and a sudden gust could easily bowl them over or, worse, blow them up against a police horse, and we all know where that could lead, look at Peterloo. Also, several might well be using Zimmer frames, and it is no easy task to lean on one while waving the other; flailing could result, and that will get us nowhere, except into the back of a white transit, with an Alsatian's jaws clamped on our sleeves.

If we are not marching at all, however, but going for the motorised option, we shall have to have short poles and small placards, to enable them to be poked out of the windows easily. And, of course, as easily brought back in: you do not want to stay up all night painting your placard only to have it come off the end of your little pole in an emergency, such as a police charge or tear gas attack. Furthermore, arthritic members (there could well be a fair percentage) will have to have very small placards indeed; the toll on an octogenarian wrist could be quite severe after half an hour, and the last thing we should want to do is leave a lot of litter about, we are not that kind of person; nor do we need to offer the police any hostages to fortune, God knows what they could trump up, Riotous Littering, perhaps, or Conspiracy to Leave Rubbish All Over the Place, we could be looking at the wrong end of six months' chokey, no fun at all if the court won't let you go privately.

Still more difficult is deciding what to paint on the placards. "No Property Tax Here!" seems a trifle hysterical: we should not wish to appear rabid. "No Property Tax, Please!", on the other hand, is clearly too supplicant. I have of course thought of modifying "Can't Pay, Won't Pay!", but though "Can Pay But Would Rather Not" may have the virtue of honesty, it lacks a certain ring. I have asked around, and the consensus among my neighbours stands at "We Really Feel the Property Tax is a Trifle Unfair, You Know, All Things Considered", but if you put that on a little arthritic placard, the writing is so small as to be virtually illegible, especially as most of the potential support among pavement spectators is likely to be presbyopic, boding the horrifying prospect of their having to crane forward, knocking over police barriers and inviting the zealous truncheon.

Communal songs and chants are another crux. Sweet reasonableness is all very well as a catchword, but the revolutionary spirit is hardly to be stirred by "We Believe We Have a Good Case for Overcoming" or "We Should Prefer Not to be Moved". I have thought long and hard, too, about "Major, Major, Major, Out, Out, Out!", but not only does nobody desire that, they do not want to risk upsetting so nice a chap; the best I could muster, I'm afraid, was "Heseltine, Heseltine, Heseltine, Reconsider, Reconsider, Reconsider!" Try it, however, and you will see that this is a slogan well-nigh impossible to incant once, let alone reiterate during a Long March, especially if a fair proportion of those still bravely hobbling behind you no longer have their own teeth.

Still, I am assured of much solid radical support. Stewards have been offered by the Cricklewood Heterosexuals for Real Suet Campaign Committee, the Hendon Ad Hoc Fair Isle Cardigan Collective is lending us its leaflet printer, the Michael Denison and Dulcie Gray Street Theatre Workshop is considering a kerbside production of *French Without Tears*, and we shall be accompanied by the Hampstead Estate Agents Cooperative.

Best of all, I know I can count on *Times* readers, which is why I have written this in the first place. Your suggestions, please, on a placard.

THE TIMES DIARY

Projecting a better image

As the stars thanked all and sundry at last night's Academy Awards ceremony in Los Angeles, a previous winner was preparing for a stormy meeting with Norman Lamont over the government's treatment of the British film industry. Sir Richard Attenborough, whose film *Gandhi* won no fewer than eight Oscars, has requested – and been granted – an early meeting with the Chancellor, following last week's Budget, which failed to offer the industry any tax breaks. Attenborough intends to make clear his frustration. "I was disheartened by Mr Lamont's failure to deliver. It is depressing after nine months' hard work to have nothing to show for it."

Attenborough feels betrayed. He and David Puttnam, the director, and other figures from the film world, met Mrs Thatcher at No 10 last June to promote a plan for tax breaks and investment incentives designed to revive the industry and lead to a European challenge to Hollywood. "It was the first time we had a meeting like that in 40 years," says Attenborough. "Mrs Thatcher was a real and powerful champion. She told us we had to save British film production. She made a statement about the national responsibility to the film industry. But it depended on an announcement in the Budget. All that has now flown out of the window."

Despite the backing of a joint industry-government working party, Lamont has been unconvinced by what he regards as the special pleadings of an industry not noted for its willingness to tighten the belt. He did, however, leave the door open to further approaches, an offer which Attenborough hopes his meeting can exploit.

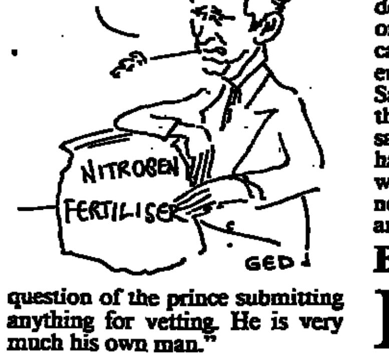
But the director, who is working on the script of a film biography of Charlie Chaplin, fears that John Major does not share his predecessor's enthusiasm for the cinema. "Everything is at a standstill, which means that when Jack Nicholson is offered work in Britain he turns it down because of the 40 per cent tax retention for artists. He would rather go to Spain."

Charles digs in

The unlikely issue of nitrogen fertiliser quotas has led to a rift between the government and Buckingham Palace. John Gummer and agriculture, food and fisheries ministry (Maff) officials are said to be furious about remarks made by Prince Charles in a lecture to the Royal Agricultural Society of England earlier this month and his refusal to tone them down after representations from ministry officials. One ministry source claims Sir Derek Andrews, the permanent secretary, "threw a fit".

The text of the speech was shown in advance to the ministry and despite official remonsrations the prince proceeded to give his approval to the still-controversial idea of a nitrogen quota, a compulsory, EC-wide limit on the amount of nitrogen fertiliser to be used per acre. The ministry disputes the environmental benefit and argues that the scheme would be unenforceable and would discriminate against Britain's high-output farms.

A Buckingham Palace spokesman said yesterday: "Speeches are always shown to the relevant government department as a matter of courtesy and to allow correction of any factual inaccuracy. There is no question of the prince submitting anything for vetting. He is very much his own man."



Nevertheless the ministry mandarins are upset that the prince declined to follow their advice and drop the references. They suspect the influence of Jonathon Porritt, founder of Friends of the Earth, who is a long-time advocate of the quota and is known to have the royal ear.

Made for yomping

From Zululand to the trenches of the first world war, the British army has seldom gone into battle with equipment suited to the conditions. The defence ministry was determined that the Gulf would be different, and soldiers were kitted out in specially designed desert gear. But what to do with the thousands of pairs of surplus suede and canvas boots commissioned to replace the heavier standard combat boot in the expectation of a long, hot campaign? The answer has been to turn them into a sought-after fashion item.

The trend started with the children of returning servicemen wanting to emulate their fathers. The craze for the distinctive boots, with their enamelled brass eyelets and moulded soles, has now spread to fashion-conscious youngsters across Britain.

Shaun White, a Pembrokeshire businessman, has been inundated with enquiries after advertising desert combat boots on mail order. "They are selling like hot cakes," says White. "I have had enquiries from as far away as Saudi Arabia." The MoD insists that there is no surplus, but White says: "An awful lot of extra boots have been produced. I got in touch with the manufacturers." What next – the designer chemical suit and respirator?

Buzz buzz

Richard Needham, the junior Northern Ireland minister, has dumped his car phone. But his decision has nothing to do with the new impost of last week's Budget. Last year Needham was seriously embarrassed when electronic eavesdroppers overheard him making less than polite comments about Mrs Thatcher to his wife. Now his official car has been equipped with highly secure "scrambled" RUC radio links, which are strictly not available for private conversations with his wife about the prime minister, even if the remarks are entirely complimentary.

● *British art dealers fear that their French counterparts are stealing a march over them too often for it to be a coincidence. The weekly newspaper of the French art trade,* Gazette de l'Hotel Drouet, *lists all British paintings coming on to the French market. But weekly orders for the paper are either arriving in Britain too late or not at all. Could it be, they wonder, that fearing British competition in the saleroom, French dealers have ensured that the British consignment of Gazettes gets no further than the seabed of the Channel?*

صورة عن الاصل

هكذا عن الاحوال

TIMES PAST THE TIMES

A CHANCE OF PEACE

The formal acceptance by the Ulster Unionists of talks over the future of Northern Ireland marks the first breakthrough in negotiations in the province for many years. Like all such initiatives, the battle honours can be claimed by the current secretary of state, Peter Brooke, while the parties offering him his triumph can safely await events.

Nobody should doubt the significance of the fact that the Unionist leadership has agreed to sit down, first with the nationalist politicians in Northern Ireland and later with the Dublin government. Mr Brooke has laboured for over a year and brought forth that essential component of any British initiative, a "new element". This time it is the prospect of Unionists in talks with Dublin.

Such talks form the first of the famous three building blocks of a settlement: the recognition of an "Irish dimension" by the Unionists, while simultaneously protecting the integrity of the Union. While this is good news, it is no more than was achieved in 1973, when a Council of Ireland was created at Sunningdale, but was followed by the collapse of attempts at power-sharing in the Northern Irish Executive.

The other two building blocks are no more than agenda items: the re-establishment of a devolved government, and some form of community power-sharing. Without both, any return to political and governmental normality in the province is inconceivable, and devolution as distant as ever. While Mr Brooke has undoubtedly increased the jaw-jaw, he cannot pretend to be bringing the war-war to an end — despite the Northern Ireland Office's usual line about "having the terrorists on the run at last".

Drugs, crime and gangsterism are becoming endemic parts of the Northern Irish economy under British rule. Since Mr Brooke, like his predecessor, Tom King, appears to believe that the ending of direct rule is impossible until terrorism has been defeated, the prospect for rebuilding a responsive democracy for the province is bleak. Northern Ireland has not yet escaped from the familiar direct rule trap: the indefinite presence of the governors to protect the welfare of the governed.

As for the third block, power sharing, the Official Unionist leader, James Molyneaux, is dogmatic and specific. There would be no "compulsory, permanent coalition" with the nationalists. Optimists can dissect that phrase for signs of hope: perhaps a "voluntary", perhaps an "impermanent" coalition? But Mr Molyneaux was covering his tracks. If the Official Unionists take that view, Ian Paisley's Democratic Unionists cannot afford to dissent.

Some form of power-sharing, perhaps under a complicated system of local confederalism, remains a necessary though not a sufficient condition for a Northern Irish settlement. Some power-sharing, some sharing of the spoils of office, some sharing of the bounty of the British tax subvention, has to be the outcome of any new round of talks. The potency of this need is indicated by the rise of another kind of "power-sharing": the kind that is practised among the paramilitaries, the gangs, the territorial drug dealers. Northern Irish people know that they must live together, with or without the British and with or without the law.

The tragedy of modern Ulster is that power-sharing has been hijacked by the outlaws. If external agents, whether in Westminster or in Dublin, can bring Catholics and Protestants and their political leaders back within the bounds of provincial democracy, so much the better. But they have failed for almost two decades. Mr Brooke has pronounced yet another, and possibly the last, bid for what is known as a conventional solution. It is impossible not to wish him well, and necessary to restrain scepticism for the duration.

COURTING FEMALE VOTES

Making a play for the women's vote can be a lucrative game in politics. The "gender gap" — the difference between the way women and men vote — has recently tended slightly to favour the Conservatives. Labour now hopes to woo back women voters with a policy document which advocates a new ministry for women with a seat in cabinet. Will it work?

Broadly, the two sexes cast their votes for more or less the same reasons, whether they be the state of the economy, the health service, education or defence. That should be a source of comfort to those who, for decades, have fought for politics to be neutral between the sexes. But recently at least, neither of the main political parties has offered a strikingly different manifesto for women. Since the sex discrimination and equal pay acts introduced by the 1974-9 Labour government, little further has been done to redress the earnings imbalance between the sexes. Women make up 42 per cent of the workforce, but their average pay, as a percentage of men's, still hovers around 75 per cent, no better than in 1976. If one political party seemed to be way ahead of the others in its attitude to women, would it capture more women's votes?

Labour is promising that a secretary of state for women, with her own department, will "make sure women can take their rightful place at the centre of power and influence." A worthy enough goal, but how will another layer of bureaucracy achieve it? The portents are not good: Harold Wilson's shiny new department of economic affairs, designed to counterbalance the might of the Treasury, lasted barely five years. Edward Heath loved rebuilding departments as an answer to political problems. Margaret Thatcher eschewed this Lego approach. For it has never been shown to achieve anything.

Grand as a new ministry for women sounds, it may just be counter-productive. In a cabinet dominated by men, the inclusion of a token, female, minister for women will lead only to buck-passing. Labour claims that the women's minister will "work closely with ministers from other departments". In the real world, the men in charge of the big departments will feel no pressing need to consider the impact their policies will have on women if a minister for women will do that for them. They will try to fight off her demands, just as they gang up against the Treasury. Rather than creating a female-friendly culture in Whitehall, such a ministry may end up achieving the reverse. Women could be placed in a ghetto.

The experience of other countries has shown that ministers for women are only effective when they have the overt backing of a prime minister or president. When they fall from favour, they become an easy target for ridicule. Such was the fate of Yvette Roudy, once President Mitterrand's protégée, who subsequently lost his support and thus her influence.

If a prime minister has the political will to improve the lot of women, his policies will reflect such a commitment. He will chivvy his ministers to think of the effect their actions will have on women. He will toughen anti-discrimination laws and strengthen the Equal Opportunities Commission's law enforcement role. He will not need a token minister for women in his cabinet.

If he really wants to win the women's vote, his party will find itself more women members of Parliament. He will promote the best of these to ministerial and, eventually, cabinet rank. Women at large are better served if their voice is heard in cabinet — heard on merit, not as a supposedly disadvantaged group. That voice would be more effective coming from a female Chancellor of the Exchequer, foreign secretary or home secretary than from a purely symbolic secretary of state for women, who has only won her place in cabinet by virtue of her sex.

YES, CHANCELLOR

Norman Lamont must rue the moment he listened to the civil servant who remarked that perhaps the draft Budget speech was, well, just a little *dull*, Chancellor, and was there not room for a touch of humour in a couple of the less important places? So pens came out, margins were scribbled in, and low and behold: "I turn now to one of the greatest scourges of modern life, the mobile telephone." This was followed by, "I hope that as a result of this measure, restaurants will be quieter and roads will be safer." He was duly written up as the man who jabbed a steak knife in the Yuppie. Nothing could have been more symbolic of the end of Thatcherism than the tax on mobile phones.

Now Mr Lamont finds himself on a crossed line. The perks brigade has declared war. Sir William Clark, chairman of the Conservative backbench finance committee, is refusing to see the funny side and said yesterday the car-phone tax is "ridiculous". He might have deserved support had he said that the reason given in the Budget was ridiculous. But the tax itself is perfectly justifiable.

Car and other mobile telephones should not be taxed because of the irritation they cause in restaurants nor for their danger on motorways. If that was the reason Mr Lamont should have taxed wrist-watches which bleep at the theatre, a true scourge. Nor is there any likelihood that taxing mobile phones will banish them, or make them any safer or quieter. They are here to stay and are a considerable boon to businessmen away from their desks, to husbands away from their wives and, as letters to *The Times* have pointed out, to single women stranded in their cars. They are a thoroughly beneficial, technological advance in which, as their salesman rightly point out, Britain leads the world.

The issue is whether those receiving them from their employers should be taxed on them as a perk, in the same way as company cars and other benefits in kind bear tax. Cub Yuppies on the standard rate of income tax will find themselves £50 a year worse off, senior Yuppies in the higher bracket, £80. Nobody pretends that the phones are exclusively for business use, any more than the cars they usually occupy. Mr Lamont has merely put an annual £80 tax on an executive perk — making it probably the most desirable obligation any taxpayer has willingly incurred.

The logic of the car-phone tax is inescapable, even without the case for it as a vanity tax. If a company pays for an employee to have a telephone at home, this is deemed a casual benefit and is taxable. A car is an extension of a home, even if it is a company car. Phones put into a car for the convenience of the driver should be treated just as their near relatives sitting on the domestic sideboard.

"Outdoors", by extension, is also private space. Those who go outside with their phones — incidentally invading other people's private space with their ringing and chatting — are benefiting from a perk no less than if they were sitting in their cars or at home. Mr Lamont was right. He was taxing expenditure at its most vain and voluntary.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN. Telephone 071-782 5000

Agenda for reform in dispensing criminal justice

From Lord Hutchinson of Lullington

Sir, As long ago as April 1976 the Devlin committee, of which I was a member, ended its enquiry into two miscarriages of justice with this recommendation:

> . . . that the Home Office should study the feasibility of setting up an independent review tribunal in which cases unsuitable for reference to the Court of Appeal could be handled.

It might be of interest to your readers to know whether the Home Office acted on this recommendation, and if so with what result.

Yours faithfully,
JEREMY HUTCHINSON,
House of Lords.
March 19.

From Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC

Sir, Amid the welter of comment on the failings of the criminal justice system, there are some helpful suggestions for improving the scope of criminal appeals. One such suggestion is to give the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) the power to carry out investigations on its own account which it cannot currently undertake.

By section 9(d) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1907 the old Court of Criminal Appeal could, if it was thought necessary or expedient in the interests of justice, order a special commissioner to conduct an enquiry and to report on any matter arising on an appeal which involved prolonged examination of "documents or account, or any scientific or local investigation".

This power was never exercised and was dropped from the legislation in 1966 which established the present Court of Appeal (Criminal Division). The power should be revived, and used in the future.

Yours faithfully,
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER,
2 Ripplevale Grove, N1.
March 22.

From his Honour Judge Keith McHale

Sir, Injustice results from acceptance of untrue evidence. It probably occurs most frequently in magistrates' courts and it is not limited to the occasional notorious case. Although police honesty cannot be guaranteed, it may be wrongly assumed.

The law needs to make fabrication less easy or less successful. The Police and Criminal Evidence Act has done much, but is it not time to assume that convictions based on confessions to police alone are unsafe as a class, rather than seeking to distinguish the true from the false?

If confessions made when police only were present became inadmissible in evidence, more guilty would be acquitted at first; but less-ready access to suspects after arrest might encourage investigators to look elsewhere for proof of guilt, and the detection rate might improve.

Yours faithfully,
KEITH McHALE,
Oak Lodge, 141 Albemarle Road,
Beckenham, Kent.

From Sir John Rawlins

Sir, Is it too much to hope that one result of the royal commission on the criminal justice system will be to introduce sentencing by computer? The jury having found the defendant guilty, all the relevant facts of the case, including the defendant's past record, state of health, social background, etc, would be fed into the computer which would compare it with all previous cases, come up with a recommended sentence and even assess the effectiveness of previous sentencing by comparing the rate of recidivism.

The judge would not be bound by the recommended sentence but a sentence differing by more than, say, two standard deviations would need to be endorsed by a higher court.

The law, more than any other aspect of our lives, is based on precedent. And when it comes to precedent the computer reigns supreme.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN RAWLINS,
Little Cross, Holne,
Newton Abbot, Devon.

From Mr Keith Plested

Sir, Sir Michael Davies (March 22) highlights an anomaly which has long since puzzled me.

Magistrates have to retire at 70. Their jurisdiction and powers are strictly limited, they usually sit as a tribunal, and they commit more serious matters to a crown court. The latter is customarily presided over by a circuit judge, retirement age 72, who has draconian sentencing powers.

However, not even the circuit judge necessarily has the last word. There is still an appeal procedure, and certain very serious crimes, murder being an example, have to be brought before a judge of the High Court — retirement age, as Sir Michael points out, currently 75.

If a retirement age differential is thought necessary, perhaps it should be applied in descending, not ascending, order of antiquity.

Yours etc.,
KEITH PLESTED,
Nastend Court,
Nr Stonehouse, Gloucestershire.
March 22.

From Mr James G. Bradshaw

Sir, Our jury system is no longer working effectively. It results in an unacceptably high acquittal rate in contested trials, including many scandalous miscarriages of justice, and is a relic of times when there were accepted standards of behaviour which do not now apply. It is ineffective to deal with the ever-increasing flood of violent crime which is ruining the quality of life of so many sections of the community.

An inquisitorial method in which every relevant fact about an accused person is on the table, under the testing supervision of a judicial officer, would be far better suited to modern conditions. We cannot any longer afford the adversarial contests with Queensberry rules which were the glory of the Victorian age.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES G. BRADSHAW,
The Manor House,
Welburn, York.
March 22.

The law and the Birmingham Six

From Mr W. Finlay Moir

Sir, Professor von Simson, who raises fears for the independence of the judiciary (March 22), should feel reassured that democracy in this country is sustained by the freedom that people have here to speak out when they feel that a public figure is not performing as he or she should. To suggest that the recent criticism of some judges in Britain has anything in common with that of the National Socialist press in Hitler's Germany is to stand the situation on its head.

As for a judge having "to look over his shoulder", why not? A judge is appointed to administer the law fairly, without fear or favour, on behalf of the people. His or her tenure of office may have greater security than that of a cabinet minister, but that doesn't mean they cannot or should not be criticised in respect of their performance, or that they are not accountable to the people.

The suggestion by his Honour Lyall Wilkes (also March 22) that the judge is as much a victim of deception as the accused is academic. The "real life" factor is that his victimisation did not amount to his spending 16 years in jail.

Yours faithfully,
W. FINLAY MOIR,
11 Beechgrove Avenue, Aberdeen.
March 22.

From Mr David Winnick, MP for Walsall North (Labour)

Sir, As a signatory of the early day motion which calls on the Lord Chief Justice to resign, I can assure Judge Beddard (March 20) that I, for one, have frequently drawn attention, both in and out of the House, to the mass murder which occurred in November 1974 and to those injured, and some paralysed for life, as a result of action of the Provisional IRA.

However, justice and the rule of law is hardly served if innocent people are imprisoned for crimes they were not at all involved in. If the Provisional IRA has gained any kind of political mileage in this particular case, it is because of the failure of the judicial system in convicting the wrong people — not, of course, that those who are responsible for such numerous crimes and atrocities over 20 years have any interest in justice.

Yours etc.,
DAVID WINNICK,
House of Commons.
March 20.

From Mr Ronald Higgins

Sir, Judge Beddard, like others, speaks of the "true villains in this tragedy" being the actual terrorists. But surely we all share some responsibility for this awful episode, whether by action or inaction. And since we frequently enough make national acts of thanksgiving for great occasions or feats of arms, should we not now contrive a national act of contrition?

I do not suggest a barefoot procession of judges, chief constables and others from the law courts to St Paul's, but we ought to do something.

Yours etc.,
RONALD HIGGINS,
Little Reeve, Vowchurch,
Hereford.
March 25.

No 1 Poultry

From Professor Emeritus T. F. Daveney

Sir, In the discussion regarding the relative merits of the Mappin & Webb building in Victoria Street and its projected replacement (letters, March 15, etc.) one important factor has been overlooked: the present edifice was built by highly-skilled artisans working chiefly by hand.

Part of the aesthetic pleasure deriving from the contemplation of such an artifact consists in noting the care and quality of the workmanship. There will never be anything built like this again — certainly not on a large scale. Skilled labour in the 19th century was incredibly cheap, and since then the increase in wages has been massive and irreversible.

It seems to me therefore that buildings of this kind should not be destroyed and replaced by fabricated structures, however appealing, while there is room for such structures to be put up elsewhere.

The arguments put forward by your correspondents, that the present buildings are internally unsatisfactory, are trivial. Interiors can be improved.

Yours etc.,
T. F. DAVENEY,
The Old Chapel, Whiddon Down,
Okehampton, Devon.

Tall buildings curb

From Mr Roger A. Hepher

Sir, Westminster City Council is not alone in proposing to keep future building below 12 storeys (report, later editions, March 15). Anyone familiar with the contemporary British town planning system cannot fail to be acutely aware that this is the age of the "low-rise".

Why is there such intense opposition to tall buildings? I grant they are often not appropriate: in some historic environments they would jar and intrude; wrongly sited and designed they can cause strong air currents which are an inconvenience to pedestrians and experience has demonstrated that high-rise living does not suit many types of household.

But the converse is also true: a tall building (or group of buildings), well designed and well sited, can add considerably to the appeal of an urban view; and by concentrating work space in a tall building, space can be created at ground level for squares, parks and footpaths.

By all means let us be rigorously discriminating in assessing the siting and design of tall buildings, but let us not rule them out. Urban life is often grey enough, without policies designed to promote visual monotony.

Yours faithfully,
R. A. HEPHER,
10 Stratton Street, W1.

Aim of red routes

From Mr Edmund King

Sir, It really is too soon to jump to conclusions about the London red routes (report, later editions, March 19) particularly when the conclusions are based on incorrect anecdotal evidence.

The Metropolitan Police have confirmed that the road death on January 7 was unrelated to the red route. If the "road is dubbed Route 96 because each stop costs a £96 fine" then all roads with yellow lines should be Route 96s as it is a conventional fine of a £16 ticket and £80 towing away fee.

We are told that the situation has got worse as lorries are now able to unload in the rush hour. It overlooks the fact that loading is only permitted on the opposite side to the rush-hour traffic direction.

No mention is made of the speeding up and extra reliability of buses. No mention is made of the need to improve loading facilities and off-street parking. We should wait to see the results of the Transport and Road Research Laboratory's monitoring report which, is using Streatham High Road as a control, before spreading such doom.

Your correspondent seems to have missed the point. The aim of the red routes is to improve conditions on main roads and make the most effective use of existing road space, hence he should not be surprised that his own selfish illegal parking was swiftly admonished by a traffic warden.

Yours faithfully,
EDMUND KING (Secretary),
Movement for London,
Pillar House,
194-202 Old Kent Road, SE1.

Tourism campaign

From the Chairman of the Scottish Tourist Board

Sir, Mr William Davis of the British Tourist Authority (March 19) says that Scotland has failed vigorously to support his campaign to encourage British people to holiday at home.

The "Britain's Great" campaign which starts this week is supplementary to Scotland's own "Discover Scotland" campaign which has been running in all advertising media throughout Great Britain since last December and will continue until August.

The Scottish Tourist Board, along with area and trade partners, is spending £2 million on this. In addition we will, of course, as Mr Davis should know, be buying space in the "Britain's Great" campaign and be encouraging the trade in Scotland to participate fully.

Yours faithfully,
IAN D. GRANT, Chairman,
Scottish Tourist Board,
23 Ravelston Terrace,
Edinburgh 4.
March 19.

From the Chairman of the Wales Tourist Board

Sir, The Wales Tourist Board promotes holidays within the UK, year in year out, with considerable success. We are prevented by existing legislation from direct support of the British Tourist Authority overseas.

This financial year with our trade partners we have already spent £4.2 million in marketing holidays in Wales within the United Kingdom, £700,000 in the last two months. We are already working very closely with Mr Davis's staff and all the other national tourist boards to maximise the potential of the campaign for the UK as a whole.

Yours faithfully,
IFAN PRYS EDWARDS,
Wales Tourist Board,
Brunel House, 2 Fitzalan Road,
Cardiff.
March 20.

Letters to the editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071 782 5046).

Liability to injured servicemen

From Mr Jack Ashley, MP for Stoke-on-Trent South (Labour)

Sir, The injustice to ex-servicemen disabled by alleged negligence before 1986 was vividly described in your splendid report (March 18). It is ironic that these men, who helped to win compensation rights for others, are themselves denied it.

Parliament understandably does not favour retrospective legislation, particularly if it could bear harshly on individuals. But in this case, retrospection would benefit those who were damaged, and would not hurt those who injured them as it is the Ministry of Defence, not the individual, who would pay any compensation awarded.

If, however, the government remains intransigent, the alternative route to justice is to provide ex-gratia payments. This was rejected by Margaret Thatcher as prime minister, but I hope that the Gulf war will evoke a spirit of generosity towards ex-servicemen that will equal the spirit of dedication shown by those still serving.

Yours faithfully,
JACK ASHLEY,
House of Commons.
March 18.

From Mr Charles P. Reed

Sir, Your news report and editorial (March 18) on the Crown's liability towards servicemen injured by the Crown's negligence assume that the only problem is the non-retrospective effect of the 1987 amending legislation. This permits the Crown to be sued for such negligence whereas previously section 10 of the Crown Proceedings Act 1947 prohibited such action.

In fact section 10 is not dead, since the 1987 Act merely suspended its operation. Under the 1987 Act the secretary of state for defence has the right to reactivate section 10 if he thinks it necessary or expedient to do so in the event of actual or impending hostilities or other warlike operations or at a time of great national danger or emergency.

One wonders whether, had the Gulf war taken a different course, the defence ministry might have seriously considered the reactivation of section 10 at some point during a more protracted conflict. The possibility of cases like Martin Ketterick taking place again cannot be ruled out.

Yours sincerely,
CHARLES P. REED,
Croydon College,
Faculty of Professional and Service Studies,
Fairfield, Croydon, Surrey.
March 19.

From Mr Hugh Lawson

Sir, You report the failure of former Marine Martin Ketterick in 1980 to obtain compensation for his crippling injuries caused by alleged negligence. His is not the only case. There are a number of instances when servicemen have suffered in similar fashion.

In the 11 years since his accident Mr Ketterick has been supported by the Royal Marines Welfare Fund and other nautical and service charities, but action by the charities is in no way a substitute for official compensation.

The South Atlantic Fund and the Gulf Trust are designed to look after those who have suffered from the conflicts of the last decade, but no seafarer is excluded from asking for help. Charities may not give financial assistance where this is available from official sources but, as in this case, there are many instances where private initiative is the only resource.

Yours sincerely,
HUGH LAWSON
(Director General),
King George's Fund for Sailors,
1 Chesham Street, SW1.
March 19.

Matters of taste

From Mr John Bratby, RA

Sir, John Russell Taylor's criticisms of my pictures (Arts, March 15) are not for me to comment on. But may I point out that I have never tried to shock — what a stupid intention — nor deliberately set out to be the controversial anti-hero.

The two toilet oils were not made to jar or appal viewers, but expressed my interest in the shapes of plumbing.

As for my oils at the Albemarle Gallery, they are Expressionistic, and that has never been to English taste.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN BRATBY,
The Cupola and Tower of the Winds,
Belmont Road,
Hastings, East Sussex.
March 15.

Commons mix-up

From Mr James Badenoch, QC

Sir, To "the gourmets of mixed metaphor" (Political Sketch by Matthew Parris, March 22) Mr Brian Gould's recent outpourings on the poll-tax replacement mark him as the true heir of the 18th-century Irish parliamentarian, Sir Boyle Roche. To Sir Boyle is attributed the remarkably Gouldian:

> Mr Speaker, I smell a rat; I see him forming in the air and darkening the sky; but I'll nip him in the bud.

I bet Mr Gould wishes he had said that. Perhaps he will.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES BADENOCH,
1 Crown Office Row,
Temple, EC4.
March 25.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 25: The Duke of Edinburgh arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this evening from the Azores.

Mr Brian McGrath was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 25: The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, The Parachute Regiment, received Lieutenant-Colonel Hamish Fletcher upon relinquishing command of the 3rd Battalion and Lieutenant-Colonel Timothy Burls upon assuming the appointment, at Highgrove, Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

His Royal Highness gave a luncheon for the Lord Hanson (Chairman, Hanson Plc) at Highgrove, Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, President of the *Girl Guides Association*, presented brooches to Queen's Guides at Kensington Palace this afternoon.

The Lady Juliet Townsend was in attendance.

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00; and will visit the Legal Secretariat to the Law Officers at 9 Buckingham Gate at 4.15.

The Duchess of York will visit the Teenage Cancer Unit at the Middlesex Hospital at 2.30.

Prince Edward will attend the Tennis and Rackets Association annual dinner at The Queens Club at 7.00.

The Princess Royal will present the Weavers' Company textile *prize scheme* awards at Vintners' Hall at noon; and attend a reception at Simpson (Piccadilly) at 7.15 and present the Labatt Safety award.

Dinner

Sheffield and District St John Ambulance
Lord Westbury, Bailiff of Egle, was the principal speaker at a dinner given last night by Mr Michael Frampton, President of the Sheffield and District St John Ambulance Competition at the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield, to commemorate the centenary of the presentation of the H.L. Brown Ambulance Challenge Shield. Other guests included the Lord Lieutenant of South Yorkshire and Mrs J. Hugh Neill, Lady Westbury, the President of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Mrs Barry Smith and Mr J. Gordon Buxton.

Reception

HM Government
Mr Michael Forsyth, Minister of State at the Scottish Office, was host yesterday at a reception given by Her Majesty's Government in Edinburgh Castle to mark the centenary of the Scottish Football League.

Birthdays today

Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, former director, Horse of the Year Show, 86; Mr Graham Barlow, cricketer, 41; Mr Pierre Boulez, composer and conductor, 66; Sir Arthur Bruce, banker, 96; Lord Chetwode, 54; Miss Kyung-Wha Chung, violinist, 43; *Lord* Graham of Edmonton, 66; Her Honour Jean Graham Hall, 74; Viscount Hawarden, 65; Lord Hooson, QC, 66; Air Marshal Sir Peter Horsley, 70; Miss Elizabeth Jane Howard, novelist, 68; Sir George Jefferson, former chairman, British Telecom, 70; Sir Bernard Katz, biophysicist, 80; the Earl of Kinnoull, 56; Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch, 77; Dr Kenneth Mellanby, entomologist, 83; Sir Leslie Melville, economist, 89; Mr G.T. Pryce, former chief executive, Dalgety, 57; Mr Harry Rabinowitz, conductor and composer, 75; Miss Diana Ross, singer, 47; Mr Colin Webb, editor-in-chief, Press Association, 52.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Konrad von Gesner, physician, Zurich, 1516; A.E. Housman, poet and scholar, Fockbury, Hereford and Worcester, 1859; Tennessee Williams, dramatist, Columbus, Mississippi, 1911.

DEATHS: Sir John Vanbrugh, dramatist and architect, London, 1726; Ludwig van Beethoven, Vienna, 1827; Walt Whitman, poet, Camden, New Jersey, 1892; Cecil Rhodes, prime minister of Cape Colony 1890-96, Muizenberg, South Africa, 1902; Sarah Bernhardt, actress, Paris, 1923; David Lloyd George, 1st Earl Lloyd George of Dwyfor, prime minister 1916-22, Ty Newydd, 1945; Raymond Chandler, La Jolla, California, 1959; Sir Noel Coward, St Mary, Jamaica, 1973.

School news

Giggleswick School
The following Scholarships Awards have been made for September 1991.

Academic
6th Form: Katie Bell, Ackworth School; Sarah Drinkwater, Crossley School.
3rd Form: Richard Westerman, Catteral Hall; Hannah Pennell, Catteral Hall; Joanna Brock, Catteral [illegible]
[illegible]
nah Wesson, Giggleswick School.
General Distinction
Oliver Cruse, Grosvenor House School.
Continuation Awards
Charles Barker, Hurworth House School; Anne MacGuire, Harecroft Hall School.

More House School
Miss M. Connell, presently Deputy Head of Bromley High School, has been appointed to the Headship of More House School. Miss Connell will take up her appointment at the start of the Autumn Term 1991.

Oakham School
Oakham School announces the following scholarship awards for 1991.

Academic
Scholarships: Maisam Fazal, Coast Academy, Mombasa; Elizabeth Woolfe, Oakham; Rosamond Jacklin, St Mary's, Colchester; Simon Glover, Oakham; Jonathan Whitebread, Oakham; Emma Curwen, Oakham; Jennie Hall, Bedford High School.
Exhibitions: Edward Kellie, Oakham; Emma Veitch, Oakham.
Jerwood Foundation Scholarships: Matthew Bailey, St John's, Cambridge; Victoria Carroll, Oakham; Catherine Murray, Kingsmead, Wirral.
Jerwood Exhibitions: Charles Curson, Spratton Hall; Mark Jackson, Dane's Hill [illegible]
Exhibitions: Caroline Sell, Arnold Lodge; Laura Custance, Oakham; David Williams, Witham Hall; Sarah Yates, Holmwood House; Joanna Chick, Oakham; Robert Duck, Spratton Hall; Madeline Riordan, PNEU Uppingham; David Garner, Stretchley Hill, Leicestershire; Matthew Shouler, Highlands, Grantham.
Jerwood Exhibitions: Alistair Furey, St Paul's [illegible]
[illegible]
Shorthouse, Birkdale; Peter Winn, King's College School, Cambridge.
Exhibitions: Stephen Jeffes, Westminster Cathedral; [illegible], Oakham.
Scholarships: Annabel Sadler, St John's, Cambridge; Rebecca Salmon, Leighfield, Leicestershire.
Exhibitions: Ewan Elliott, Ralph Sadler, Hertfordshire; Katie Smith, St John's, Cambridge; Jane Sita-Lumsden, Stamford HS (Junior).
Art
Scholarship: Caroline Sell, Arnold Lodge.
Exhibition: Louisa Turney, Spratton Hall; Timothy Hall, St John's, Cambridge.
Chess
Scholarships: Mark Jackson, Dane's Hill; [illegible], David Garner, Stretchley Hill, Leicestershire.

Marriage

Dr T. Hames
and Mrs J.H.M. Hardman
The marriage took place on Saturday, March 16, in Nuffield College Chapel, Oxford, of Dr Tim Hames, son of Mr and Mrs F.J. Hames, of Warlingham, Surrey, to Mrs Julia Hardman, daughter of Mr and Mrs K.E. Simmonds, of Conistone, North Yorkshire.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A.M. Barrett
and Miss L.R. Townsend
The engagement is announced between Andrew, elder son of Mr and Mrs M.A. Barrett, of The Old Hall, Thornton Steward, Yorkshire, and Louise, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Johnny Townsend, of 73 Gloucester Street, London, SW1.

Mr J.R.W. Berryman
and Miss K.E. Barnes
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, only son of Anne and Dennis Berryman, of Lincoln, and Kate, only daughter of Diana and Martin Barnes, of Kirtlington, Oxfordshire.

Mr N. Isaac
and Miss G.C. Byam-Cook
The engagement is announced between Nick, son of Rear Admiral R.A. Isaac, CB, and Mrs Isaac, of Bath, and Georgina, daughter of Mr and Mrs Philip Byam-Cook, of West Malling, Kent.

Mr R.A.M. Lumsden
and Miss D.E. Symons
The engagement is announced between Alistair, son of Professor and Mrs Keith Lumsden, of Edinburgh, and Dee, daughter of Vice Admiral Sir Patrick and Lady Symons, of Brussels.

Mr T.D.E. Parker
and Miss L.E. Barrett
The engagement is announced between Timothy, son of Mr and Mrs Hampden Parker, of Hambledon, Surrey, and Laurie, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jonathan Barrett, of Seattle, Washington, USA.

Mr R.D. Rudd
and Miss S.A.Y. Hale
The engagement is announced between Roland, son of Mr and Mrs Anthony Rudd, of 15 Kensington Square, London, W8, and Sophie, daughter of Mr Edward Hale, of London, SW14, and of Mrs Anthony Landale, of Coombe Bissett, Salisbury, Wiltshire.

Mr W.J. Rook
and Miss T.A.V. Bevan
The engagement is announced between William James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs John Rook, of Birdbrook, Essex, and Tiffany Alice Vaughan, youngest daughter of Mr Jonathan Bevan, of Eaton Terrace, London, and Mrs Roger Dalzell, of West Wratting, Cambridge.

Mr P.W.R. Sankey
and Mrs S.C.A. Davenport Greenshields
The engagement is announced between Peter, younger son of Mr and Mrs Michael Sankey, of Shackerley Hall, Albrighton, Shropshire, and Sarah, only daughter of the late Mr John Lea and of Mrs John Lea, of Kemerton House, Crowle, Worcestershire.

Lieutenant Commander J.C.L. Wotton, RN
and Miss J.J. Morgan-Grenville
The engagement is announced between John, son of Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Gordon Wotton, of Old Bursledon, Hampshire, and Joanna, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Morgan-Grenville, of Upperton, West Sussex.

OBITUARIES

MONSIGNOR MARCEL LEFEBVRE

Monsignor Marcel Lefebvre, French Roman Catholic archbishop who was excommunicated for consecrating bishops without papal approval, died in Martigny, Switzerland, yesterday aged 85. He was born on November 29, 1905.

THE excommunication of Marcel Lefebvre on June 30, 1988, was the Roman Catholic church's final sanction against a cleric whose defiance of the spirit and the letter of the *Second* Vatican Council had had him and his followers on a collision course with the Vatican for the previous twenty years. It came as a direct reaction to Lefebvre's consecration of four bishops for the breakaway "Fraternity of St Pius X" which he had founded in the late 1960s and whose activities had already led to the Vatican suspending him from his priestly functions. The consecrations and final excommunication followed frantic activity by the Papacy to try and heal the breach with Lefebvre who nevertheless remained steadfast in his repudiation of almost all the decrees of the Second Vatican Council, notably those tending to recognise religious liberty and freedom of conscience. That his own actions represented, to a very large degree, precisely those things, was a matter Lefebvre did address himself to. But he rationalised his position by countering that the abandonment of the traditional Tridentine mass for the vernacular and the dialogue with other churches and religions was in itself a rebellion against *divine authority* and *therefore* null and void. In a style befitting that of the schismatics of the Middle Ages he declared that the throne of St Peter had been desecrated and that the Pope was anti-Christ.

In truth he was no great theologian and his pronouncements sometimes appeared to come as much from the viscera as from a theologically informed mind. Among his more extreme charges against Catholicism in the period after Vatican II were that it had become "Protestant" and "pro-communist". *He was a thorn in the side of Pope* Paul VI for whom he nursed considerable personal antipathy (among other things he specialised in an unsparingly accurate mimicry of the unfortunate pontiff). After Paul VI's death he was in a position to have gained some credit as the herald of a return to more conservative policies from the Vatican. After the very brief pontificate of John Paul I he announced that he could have no quarrel with his successor, John Paul II. But this promise was short-lived. An aura of extremism clung to him, while in some respects his candour bordered perilously on naivety. For a man who administered a greater seismic shock to the Roman Catholic church than anyone since Alfred Firmin Loisy, the modernist biblical scholar excommunicated by the conservative Pius X in 1908, Lefebvre was actually *not an intellectually or* morally imposing figure. He gave a strangely ineffectual impression and even when lionised by the traditionalist right in elegant Roman *salotti* his protests were judged as lacking in both style and weight by *those who had not been convinced* by his reputation before they met him.

He nevertheless found a following among Catholics dismayed in particular by the liturgical changes brought about by the Second Vatican Council. His movement was the one serious challenge to the Council's innovations and the only example of organised disobedience which at times came close to schism after Paul had suspended Lefebvre from his pastoral functions for defiance of instructions, the first occasion on which the punishment had been used against a bishop since the eighteenth century.

Marcel Lefebvre was born at Tourcoing near Lille and studied for the priesthood at the French seminary in Rome. He was ordained in September 1929 and after briefly working in a parish at Lomme he began his novitiate with the Holy Ghost Fathers. From 1932 to 1945 he was a missionary in Gabon. He taught in the seminaries of his order and was appointed bishop in September 1947 as preparation for *his nomination as apostolic delegate* for all black French Africa which then included 56 dioceses. In 1948 he was made Archbishop of Dakar, an office in which he remained until 1962.

He was a member of the preparatory commission for the Vatican Council and briefly served as Archbishop of Tulle before his election as Superior of the Holy Ghost Fathers. He remained only a short time in this position, resigning after the order's general assembly voted a series of reforms. He maintained at *the time that* "*democratisation*" was the work of the devil. He called his new movement the "Priestly Confraternity of St Pius X" and established its seminary, called the Séminaire International St Pie X, at Ecône near Geneva. He based his liturgical practices on the Tridentine Mass introduced by Pope Pius V, after the Council of Trent in the sixteenth century, which remained the main form of Catholic worship until the Second Vatican Council.

His candidates for the priesthood wore traditional cassocks and all services were in Latin. The aim was to behave as if the Second Vatican Council had never taken place. The Vatican riposted by ordering Lefebvre to dissolve his seminary. In October 1975 Monsignor Pierre Mamie, Bishop of Lausanne, Geneva and Fribourg, withdrew canonical approval of it. In July 1976 Pope Paul VI suspended Lefebvre from all his priestly functions after he refused to obey an instruction to stop ordaining priests into his confraternity. Lefebvre replied by saying that his suspension applied only to using the new Mass and the new sacraments which he, in any case, did not accept. He had a certain following in the Vatican for some of his ideas, but very few followed him so far as to disobey papal instructions. He claimed to recognise papal authority but he compared his recognition with the recognition by children of the authority of their parents as long as parents did not commit or order immoral acts. If parents asked of children things that were immoral, he said, children were not bound to obey them.

Lefebvre's position was a double irritant to Paul VI whose proud boast was that he had guided the Church through the difficult post-conciliar period without a schism. And the personal animosity between the two men only exacerbated their differences at the doctrinal level. When Lefebvre first met John Paul II on November 18, 1978, he afterwards said that he no longer had problems with the Vatican. On January 29, 1979 he ordained 30 new priests at Ecône, an act similar to that which had brought his suspension in 1976. This time there was no reaction.

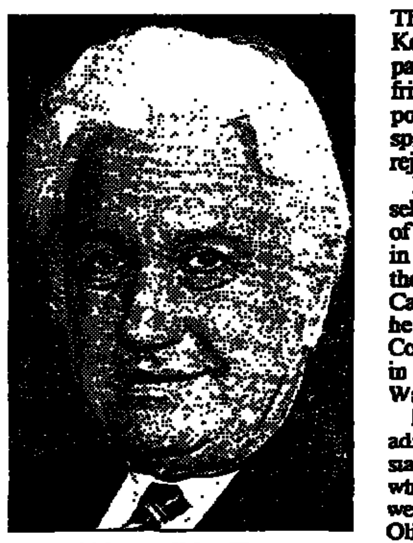
But the state of truce was a fragile one. In 1983 Lefebvre retired as superior-general of the fraternity of St Pius X but this brought no cessation of his militant stance or his influence. The numbers of adherents to the Tridentine rite continued to grow to its present 100,000 throughout the world administered to by 240 priests. Seminaries were formed in Argentina, Australia, France, Germany and the United States and there was also a considerable following in Britain, while the international seminary at Ecône had a staff of 60 resident priests. The Vatican adopted a strategy of vagueness about its intentions to those who continued to celebrate the Tridentine mass, and this appeared, for a time, to be likely to contain the schismatic tendencies of Lefebvre's movement. Lefebvre held several meetings with Vatican officials which held out the promise of *recognition of his order* as a church institution provided he publicly accepted Vatican II's reforms.

All these hopes of compromise were dashed in 1988 when Lefebvre announced that he would, after all, go ahead with the consecration of four bishops, a Frenchman, a Spaniard, a Swiss and a former Anglican, Richard Williamson, who was director of the Lefebvre seminary in the USA. The consecration, at Ecône, on June 30, 1988, at a five-hour mass was accompanied by defiance from Lefebvre in which he described the "sins" of Rome as being "liberalism, socialism, modernism and Zionism". Addressing his new bishops after the service he declared that "the throne of St Peter and the posts of Rome have been occupied by anti-Christ". Minutes later the Vatican confirmed that Lefebvre and the bishops were "formally schismatic" and automatically excommunicated.

Lefebvre's zeal continued unabated until his recent illness. Two years ago he he had visited Britain to *consecrate new churches* for the society of Pius X in Liverpool and Manchester. Cardinal Hume had already given permission for Sunday celebrations of the Tridentine mass in London, to minimise the schismatical tendencies of Lefebvre's group. But in the following year matters passed off less peacefully when his followers tried to invade a service at the cathedral of St Maciou, Pontoise, France, and to impose the Tridentine rite on a Catholic service already in progress. Police were called in to restore order after blows were struck in the cathedral nave, and vestments rumpled. The intruders eventually retreated, honour satisfied, after an agreement that they might hold their own service in a side chapel.

Subsequently Lefebvre was diagnosed as suffering from cancer and he entered hospital in Switzerland earlier this month.

SIR JOHN KERR



Sir John Robert Kerr, AK, GCMG, GCVO, PC, Governor-General of Australia from 1974 to 1977, died on March 24 aged 76. He was born on September 24, 1914.

SIR John Kerr was the fifth Australian-born governor-general and the most controversial. In November 1975 he created a precedent which caused political turmoil throughout Australia and attracted world-wide attention when he dismissed from office the *Whitlam* Labour administration before its full term had expired. Kerr had been confronted with a government that was no longer able to govern completely, with a prime minister who would not go to the polls, and with an opposition in the senate which declined to pass the supply (money) bill enabling the Crown to carry on the ordinary services of government.

The governor-general appointed a caretaker Liberal-Country party coalition government to carry on while a *national election was organised.* When it came the caretaker government, headed by Mr Malcolm Fraser, was overwhelmingly elected. However, the hue and cry which ensued over the legality of the governor-general's actions continued for years. One result was a movement in Australia, Citizens for Democracy, which declared not only in favour of a republican form of government in place of the monarchy but pledged that the office of governor-general should be abolished.

Kerr showed personal courage in the face of a persistent, hostile, and sometimes violent, campaign against him and his office. He said: "Regardless of my personal feelings the constitution is the law and must be obeyed. I acted in accordance with section 64 of the constitution." The irony was that Kerr had Mr Whitlam's backing to become governor-general and that he had been a friend.

The son of a Sydney boilermaker, Kerr was a distinguished jurist and administrator. He was educated at Fort Street Boy's High School, Sydney, which produced such other *prominent jurists as Dr H. V. Evatt,* Sir Percy Spender and Sir Garfield Barwick, Chief Justice of the High Court of Australia at the time of the Kerr-Whitlam affair. He won an exhibition to Sydney University, took a law degree, and was admitted to the bar in 1938. During the second world war he joined the *Australian army and served as an* adviser on civil government in Papua and New Guinea to the Australian commander-in-chief, Sir Thomas Blamey. During the 1940s Kerr joined the Australian Labour party but he resisted attempts by friends to persuade him to enter politics. When the Labour party split in 1956 he left it and never rejoined.

He had become a Queen's Counsel in 1953. In 1964 he was president of the Law Council of Australia, and in 1966 he was appointed a judge of the Supreme Court of the Australian Capital Territory. In the same year he became a judge of the Supreme Court of the Northern Territory and in 1972 Chief Justice of New South Wales.

His dismissal of the Whitlam administration remains controversial and divisive. The view of those who agreed with what he did was well summarised by Sir Marcus Oliphant, a distinguished scientist and sociologist, who was then governor of South Australia (1971-76): "I can find no fault in the actions of the governor-general in dismissing the federal Labour gov*ernment. I believe it was democracy* in action. It simply meant that in the end the people were asked what they wanted and they said what they wanted. Democracy needs a referee when things go wrong." Kerr announced his resignation in July 1977, saying he was stepping down because of the partisan feelings aroused by his dismissal of the Whitlam government. Mr Whitlam described his dismissal as a *coup d'état.*

In February 1978 it was announced that Kerr was to be Australia's ambassador to Unesco, based in Paris. The post was offered by Sir Malcolm Fraser, prime minister, who replaced Gough Whitlam. Kerr accepted the appointment. But three weeks later, on the day he was to have taken up his new position, he stepped down under intense public and political pressure. Mr Whitlam was later to take up the same role.

For a while, Kerr lived in England, where he wrote his version of the Whitlam controversy. In the last 10 years of his life, he became a near-recluse, living in Sydney.

He leaves his second wife, Anne, *whom he married in 1975,* and a son and two daughters from his marriage to his first wife, Alison, who died in 1974.

Fiona MacMath

Dr Johnson, strictly speaking

PENITENCE is back in fashion. Indifference and zeal have been unexpectedly replaced by a desire for religious discipline, a strict religion. "To be strictly religious is difficult," Samuel Johnson wrote, "but we may be zealously religious at little expense."

The modern view of Lent as a time of activity seems suddenly unsatisfactory. Instead of praying we organise more prayer meetings (not the same thing at all); instead of fasting we hold hunger lunches for charity. Then there is the radio Lent course which gives the indelible impression that ecumenism is an unpleasant duty. All seem *devised to prevent us glancing into* the fearful darkness of our souls.

But no longer are well-intentioned tasks a sufficient distraction. No longer are we so confident in affirming our essential goodness. Words such as evil, guilt and sin are back on the lips of our religious leaders. James Boswell's *Life of Samuel Johnson, LLD* was published 200 years ago. There can be no better guide to "strict religion" than its subject.

Eighteenth century religion contained many certainties. It was not an age to doubt the existence of God; though, like ours, it was sometimes slow to act on its belief. But for Johnson at least, those certainties did not lead to complacency. He was sure of God's infinite mercy and goodness. He was even sure of his own talents and abilities. But ever more real to him were certainties about his own shortcomings and misdeeds. God was indeed merciful, but he was also a judge, and Johnson engaged himself as prosecuting counsel.

His verdict on himself was invari*ably harsh. His habit was to make* resolutions not at new year but at Easter, and the entries in his journal at such times make sober reading:

1772: "When I review the last year, I am able to recollect so little done, that shame and sorrow, though perhaps *too* weakly, come upon me." (That phrase, "though perhaps too weakly", illustrates Johnson's scrupulous refusal to allow himself any credit for his penitence.)

1775: "I find that so much of my life has stolen unprofitably away, and that I can descry by retrospection scarcely a few single days properly and vigorously employed."

In a sermon on the urgency of penitence, it is clear whom he addresses; "Every man naturally persuades himself that he can keep his resolutions, nor is he convinced of his imbecility but by length of time and frequency of experiment."

An example of Johnson's sharp eye and keen judgment is his contention that good deeds can be as much of a distraction as bad ones. "It is common to take advantage by pushing the favourite or convenient virtue to its utmost extent and to lose all sense of deficiency in the perpetual contemplation of some single excellence."

Elsewhere, he writes: "No sooner do we, in compliance with either the *vanities or the business of life, relax* our attention to the doctrines of piety, than we grow cold and indifferent, dilatory and negligent. When we are again called to our duty, we find our minds entangled with a thousand objections ... and because we readily satisfy ourselves with our excuses, we are willing to imagine that we shall satisfy God."

A double portrait emerges. Through his published work and Boswell's detailed and loving biography we see the witty, formidable, clear-thinking, warm-hearted conversationalist, writer, and lexicographer. Through his sermons (written anonymously for uninspired clergy friends), his diaries and prayers, we see a man tortured by a sense of his own inadequacy, depression, illness and by a dreadful fear of death — and of what lay beyond.

We might wish the man had lived in our more merciful, tolerant age. Such despair at his failure to keep resolutions, to rise early, to attend church we should so easily smooth away. Boswell observes that in 1771:

"He is still 'trying his ways' too rigorously. He charges himself with not rising early enough; yet he mentions what was surely a sufficient excuse for this. 'One great hindrance is want of rest; my nocturnal complaints grow less troublesome towards *morning; and I am tempted to repair* the deficiencies of the night.' Alas! how hard would it be, if this indulgence were to be imputed to a sick man as a crime ... Had he been judging of anyone else in the same circumstances, how clear would he have been on the favourable side."

Such a ruthless honesty might be insufferable, had it not been accompanied by an equally rigorous refusal to judge others. Boswell provides many examples of Johnson's exceptional tolerance and love of his fellow men and women. His humility, humanity and generosity never failed to surprise those who knew him best.

And so today. But it is his readiness to peer into the abyss, not unafraid but undaunted, that provides us with an unexpected champion, an unlikely flame for this dark age.

Fiona MacMath is the author of The Faith of Samuel Johnson, *Mowbrays £5.95.*

Memorial service

His Honour Sir Carl Aarvold
A service of thanksgiving for His Honour Sir Carl Aarvold was held yesterday at St Michael's, Mickleham, near Dorking, Surrey. The Rev Peter R. Ince officiated.

Mr Christopher Aarvold, son, read the lesson, Mr James Aarvold, son, read from the works of Canon Henry Scott Holland and Mr John Aarvold, son, read a prayer. His Honour Sir James Miskin, QC, gave an address.

Lecture

Royal Society
Professor C.N.R. Rao, Director of the Indian Institute of Science, delivered the Blackett Memorial lecture yesterday at the Royal Society. Professor Sir Anthony Epstein, foreign secretary and vice-president of the society presided and was host at a dinner held afterwards in honour of Professor Rao. Sir Robert Honeycombe, Dr N.M. Blackett and Dr A.F. Ganguly were among those present.

Appointments

Mr Justice Fennell to be a judge of the Employment Appeal Tribunal.

Raymond Evan Jack QC to be a circuit judge on the western circuit.

Ministry of Defence
Anthony J. Cragg to be director general of management audit; David C.R Heyhoe to be assistant under secretary (fleet support). Nigel D. Paren to be director general of marketing.

صكرا عن الاصل

It is useless to work so hard for a living, getting up early and going to bed late. For the Lord provides for those he loves, while they are asleep.
Psalm 127 : 2 G.N.B.

BIRTHS

ABIOLA - On March 19th, at The Portland Hospital, to Rafiat and Moshood, a son, a brother for Taiwo and Kenny.

AMSLER - On March 5th 1991, to Jane and Jay, a daughter, Emma Caroline, a sister for Joy.

ASPLAND-ROBINSON - On March 22nd, at the Humana Hospital Wellington, to Gail (née Evans) and Richard, a son, Joshua (Josh) David Crofton, a brother for Olivia.

AYLMER - On March 21st, to Belinda (née Parker) and Julian, a son Michael Henry.

BAILEY - On March 18th, to Allison (née Paterson) and George, a son, Matthew John Selborne, a brother for Henry.

BICKERSTETH - On March 22nd, in Sydney, to Cecily (née Paterson) and Julian, a daughter, Chloe Rebecca, a sister for Tamsin and Charles.

CAMERON-WILSON - On March 20th, to Frances and James, a daughter, Juliet Caton.

CARTER - On March 14th 1991, to Jenny (née Nolan) and Charles, a son, James Robert Derwent, a brother for Laura and William.

CLAPHAM - On March 20th, to Rosie (née Corbett) and John, a daughter, Victoria Caroline Lucy.

COBB - On March 22nd, at The Portland Hospital, to Emma and Tim, a daughter.

COCHRANE - On March 24th to Katrina and Kevin, a son, Alexander John Valentine, at St Peter's, Chertsey.

COOPER - On March 17th, at The Portland Hospital, to Vicki, a son, James Wesley.

DUDGEON - On March 24th, at The Simpson, to Charles and Rose, a daughter.

EBAN - see Glick.

EDWARDS - On March 4th, to Helen (née Matthews) and Mike, a daughter, Lucy Elizabeth.

GIBSON - On March 24th, to Tanya and Mark, a son.

GLICK - On March 22nd, to Roxane (née Eban) and Ian, a son, Louis Daniel.

GRIMSTON - On March 23rd, to Emily (née Shirley) and Robin, a daughter, Charlotte Elgiva.

HERBERT - On March 20th at 2020 hours, at The Portland Hospital, to Annabel (née Mansel Lewis) and Guy, a son, Ben.

HEWITT - On March 24th, to Jo (née Coles) and Andrew Hewitt, a daughter, Hazel Georgina.

IGGULDEN - On March 19th, to Jane (née Stevenson) and Robert, a daughter, Lucinda, who sadly lived only 3 days.

KERR - On St Patrick's Day, to Duncan and Marie-Helene (née Mamon) at The Portland Hospital, a son and daughter, Finlay and Mathilde.

LARKIN - On March 22nd, to Carolyn and Peter, a son, Sean Francis.

LYONS - On March 8th, to Jane (née Payton) and Terence, a daughter, Flavia, a sister for Bertie.

MACDONALD - On Saturday March 16th 1991, in London, to Tracy (née Cradock) and John, a son, Alexander Christopher Ross, 9lbs 6oz.

MACDUFF - On March 23rd, to Caroline and David, a son, George William Carnegie, a brother for Charlie.

McCULLOUGH - On March 18th, to Sarah (née Alcock) and Gerard, a beautiful daughter, Phoebe Caroline Rose.

NORRIS - On March 20th, at Queen Mary's Hospital, Roehampton, to Caroline (née Holmes-Milner) and Geraint, a daughter, Amelia Catherine, a sister for James.

OAKES - On Sunday March 24th, to Elizabeth and Charles, a daughter, Emily Rose, a sister for Alexander.

O'DUFFY - On March 23rd 1991 at Queen Charlotte's, to Sarah-Jane (née Tanyar) and Conor, a son, Lorcan James Patrick Tanyar, 8lbs 8oz.

POWELL - On March 19th, to Claire (née Evans) and Antony, a daughter, Rachel Sarah Veronica.

REDCLIFFE - On March 20th, at The Portland Hospital, to Nicola and Stuart, a daughter (Alexandra Nicola), a sister to Natasha.

ROBBINS - On March 23rd, to Gillian (née Gee) and James, a daughter, Emily Maeve Cameron.

RUSSELL - On Wednesday March 20th 1991, to Maureen (née McCafferty) and Robert, a daughter, Lydia Rose, a sister for Anton and Katie.

SHANKS - On March 20th, at St George's Hospital, Tooting, to Anita (née Ross) and Douglas, a daughter, Kirsten Florence, a sister for Hannah.

SPENCE-JONES - On March 18th, to Maureen (née Birch) and Kim, a son, Carl Peter.

SUTHERLAND - On March 21st, at the Royal Lancaster Infirmary, to Sheila (née Halls) and Stuart, a daughter, Jessica Aimee.

TOWNSHEND - On March 18th 1991, to Robert and Fiona, a son.

TURNER-BRIDGER - On March 21st 1991, to Candide (née Durnford) and Jeremy, a son.

WARMINGTON - On March 19th, to Jane (née Beresford), wife of Hugh, a daughter, Phyllida Holly.

WOODHOUSE - On March 20th, to Sarah (née George) and Philip, a son, George John, a brother for Charles.

ZIFF - On March 15th, to Debra and Michael, a son, Alexander Michael.

MARRIAGES

MUNRO:DOUGLAS-MANN - On March 23rd 1991, Andrew to Susanna.

RUBY ANNIVERSARIES

DAGEN:PATERSON - On March 26th 1951 at St Joseph's R.C. Church, Dundee, John Dagen to Annie Paterson.

DEATHS

ASH - On March 24th, peacefully at Guildford Hospital, following a fall, Margaret, aged 94, wife of the late Maurice Ash, of Haslemere, Surrey. Very dearly loved mother of Cheila, Janet and the late Elizabeth, Barbara and Mary. Much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Family funeral at Guildford Crematorium on Thursday March 28th at 4.30 pm.

ASHTON - On March 24th 1991, peacefully at Hurstwood Park Hospital, Tony, dearest husband of Sue, much loved father of Caroline and Charles and devoted grandfather to Emma, Tom and Edward. Private cremation on Wednesday March 27th, followed at 2 pm by a Memorial Service at St Nicholas Church, Itchenor, nr. Chichester. Family flowers only but donations, if desired, to The League of Friends, Hurstwood Park Hospital, Haywards Heath, W. Sussex.

BALLANTYNE - On March 21st, peacefully at Papworth Hospital, Cambs., Margaret Ann 'Sally' (née Bolingbroke), wife of John, loving mother of Andrew, James and Patricia, mother-in-law of Sylvia and Tony, grandmother of Sarah, Mark, Amy, Ben and Sam. Cremation at Cambridge Crematorium on April 3rd at 3 pm. Family flowers only. Donations for Baron Ward, Papworth Hospital c/o Dennis Easton Funeral Service, The Lodge, Broad Leas, St Ives, Huntingdon, Cambs., PE17 4PU.

BERE - On March 23rd 1991, peacefully at Derriford Hospital, Plymouth, Rennie Montague, C.M.G., M.A., beloved husband of Maree. Funeral at St Michael's Church, Bude, on Friday March 29th at 3.30 pm. No flowers please, donations to St Michael's Church.

BURROWS - On March 21st, in hospital, Vera, beloved wife of Kenneth. Funeral on Wednesday April 3rd Breakspear Crematorium, Ruislip, 1.45 pm. No flowers by request, donations if desired to Guide Dogs for the Blind. All enquiries to W.S. Bond Ltd., 19 Bond Street, Ealing W5, tel: (081) 567-0422.

CARAPIET - On March 21st 1991, Caro, John, peacefully at home. Private funeral service at Holy Trinity Church, Brompton Road, London SW7, on Wednesday March 27th at 3 pm. Flowers to Christopher Wickenden Funeral Services, 71 Greenford Avenue, Hanwell, London W7. There will be a Thanksgiving Service for John's life at Holy Trinity Church on Thursday April 11th at 6 pm.

CAREY - On March 21st 1991, Dr. Michael John, very loved husband of Tania, son of Donald and Selina and brother to William, Humphrey and Emma. Funeral Thursday 28th March 1991 at 2pm at St. Mary's Church, Bradford Peverell, Dorchester, Dorset. Enquiries to Grassby Funeral Service, 16 Prince's Street, Dorchester. (0305) 262338

CASEY - On March 24th 1991, at home, Mary Beatrice (Bunny), widow of Noel Baron Victor (Ginger). Cremation and funeral service at Putney Vale Crematorium at 1 pm on Wednesday April 3rd 1991.

CHALLONER - On March 24th, peacefully in Hexham General Hospital, Molly, Silversmith. Family cremation. Service of Thanksgiving at St Peter's Church, Humshaugh, 3 pm Tuesday April 2nd. No flowers, donations to British Heart Foundation.

CHAPMAN - On March 23rd 1991, in hospital, The Honourable Sir Stephen Chapman, aged 83, former Judge of the High Court, formerly of the Manor House, Ware, Herts. Beloved husband of Pauline. Funeral Service at St Giles's Church, Cripplegate, Barbican EC2 on April 2nd, followed by private cremation. Family flowers only, donations to St Bartholomew's Hospital Paediatric Oncology Research. Funeral enquiries to F.A. Albin & Sons Ltd., 52 Culling Road, London SE16, (071) 237-3637.

CHASE - On Saturday March 23rd 1991, Valerie, peacefully at home in Chelsworth, Suffolk. Greatly beloved wife of Michael and dearest daughter of Molly Thornton.

CHRISTIE-MILLER - On Friday March 22nd 1991, Maria, calmly and gently after a long illness borne with great strength, courage and dignity. Maria was the much loved eldest daughter of the late Brigadier and Mrs Alexander McBarnet and the wonderful wife of Duncan and loving mother of Tom and James. Funeral Service at Yateley Manor School, Reading Road, Yateley, at 2.30 pm Thursday March 28th, followed by cremation. Donations to the Phyllis Tuckwell Memorial Hospice, Farnham, Surrey. Please telephone Funeral Directors Thorne-Leggett 0420-473404 for detailed arrangements.

DAVIDSON - On March 22nd peacefully after a long and gallant fight, Margaret Helen de Carteret (Peggy), widow of The Very Reverend Nevile Davidson, DL, DD, beloved sister of Major General Peter Martin and adored aunt (AP) of Fiona and David and their families. Funeral Service at Glasgow Cathedral on Wednesday March 27th at 2 pm. Enquiries to Anderson & Maguire 041-632 3838. Service of Thanksgiving at St Mary's Church, Haddington, on Thursday March 28th at 12 noon.

DEVEREUX - On Thursday March 21st, suddenly and tragically in London, Ian, aged 23. Funeral on Thursday March 28th, Christ Church, Clifton, Bristol at 2.30 pm, followed by interment at South Bristol Cemetery at 3.30 pm. Family flowers only by request, donations if desired for Mr B Cummings Head Injury Rehabilitation Unit c/o Thomas Davis Funeral Directors, Southville Lodge, Southville, Bristol, BS3 1DJ.

FELLOWES - On March 23rd, peacefully in a nursing home in Malvern after a short illness, William Hamilton Fellowes, husband of Francisca. Private cremation followed by a Thanksgiving Service at Upton-upon-Severn Parish Church on April 2nd at 3pm. No flowers please, but donations to the Royal National Institute for the Deaf very welcome c/o 71 Barnards Green Road, Malvern, Worcestershire.

MAR 26 ON THIS DAY 1924

Since the assassination of George I in 1913 Greece has seen monarchs, republics and dictators come and go. (George II's father was twice exiled). The republic of 1924 lasted until 1935 when the king was restored; in 1941 he fled the country, returning in 1946 to reign until his death a year later.

REPUBLIC FOR GREECE

PROCLAMATION IN ATHENS

(FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.)

ATHENS, MARCH 25.

As from to-day Greece is virtually a republic, King George II has definitely been deposed, and, unless the coming plebiscite springs a surprise on the over-confident Republicans, the familiar title of "King of the Hellenes" will be relegated to past history.

The proclamation of the Republic coincided with the celebration of the 103rd anniversary of Greek independence, and a *Te Deum* was sung at the Cathedral in the presence of Admiral Konduriotis, the Regent, the Cabinet Ministers, the foreign representatives, and many high officials. Athens was in holiday attire, the city being a mass of blue and white bunting, and nearly every cab and motor-car had been mobilized for parades through the streets, with occupants carrying small flags inscribed "Republic Reconciliation". The Cabinet Ministers were warmly cheered by thousands lining the streets between the Cathedral and the Parliament House, where they proceeded, after the service, for the purpose of deposing the Glucksburg Dynasty and proclaiming the Republic. The Chamber was filled to overflowing several hours before the Cabinet Ministers, wearing evening dress, arrived. Then, amid the booming of guns from Lycabettos, which dominates the city, the following resolution was passed unanimously by 284 votes:-

The Fourth Constituent Assembly

1) Proclaims definitely the dethronement of the Glucksburgs, deprives the members of the Dynasty of all right of succession to the Throne, and forbids their sojourn in Greece.

2) Proclaims Greece to be a Republic on condition that such decision be confirmed by the people by a plebiscite.

3) Authorizes the forcible expropriation of the property belonging to all members of the deposed Dynasty.

4) Admiral Konduriotis continues to exercise his present powers until the Republican Constitution can be framed.

M. Kaphandaris and 60 of his followers abstained from attending the session because, as he has explained, they did not wish to have a share in the responsibility for the proclamation of the Republic by the Chamber instead of by a plebiscite. MM. Michalakopoulos and Sophoulis voted in favour of the Republic, on the ground that if the Government did not obtain its vote of confidence Greece would again fall into a chaotic political state.

Cheers for the Republic, wherein the Deputies frequently joined, came from the galleries during the reading of the resolution, and even during the subsequent voting by roll-call excited spectators expressed approval as their favourite deputy answered. Deafening cheers, lasting for several minutes, greeted the result, which was the signal for the release of half a dozen doves, one of which flew to M. Papanastasiou, the Prime Minister. This was instantly interpreted by many as a good omen for the future internal peace of Greece. Flowers were also rained on the Deputies by ladies in the boxes.

The members of the Cabinet then proceeded through cheering throngs to Constitution Square, where, standing in front of the old Royal Palace, they reviewed the march past of the Athens garrison, headed by Colonel Kondylis, the Minister of War, with artillery and tanks. The officers and men, who had previously removed the Crowns from their caps, carried small flags with the letter delta in the middle of the cross.

The Monarchists appeared to take the whole affair very philosophically, and the advice given by their newspapers to stay at home today was presumably unheeded, judging by the dense mass of people thronging the principal streets. The original plan of the Republicans to alter the title of Admiral Konduriotis to Provisional Governor of Greece was abandoned at the last minute, as it was realized that it would result in the interruption of relations with the diplomatists who are accredited to him in his capacity as Regent. The celebrations will continue for three days, and the plebiscite will be held on April 13 ...

GODDARD - On March 21st, peacefully after a long illness, Vera Constance, aged 80, widow of Bernard Joseph Goddard, beloved mother of Rodney. Private cremation Thursday March 28th. Flowers only to Serenity, 17 Hyde Road, Eastbourne.

HICH - On March 25th, peacefully, George Bladon, a greatly loved and loving father, grandfather and friend. All enquiries to E.B. Button & Sons, Woodbridge (0394) 382160.

LINGS - On March 24th, peacefully at home, Elizabeth Jill, after a long series of illnesses inspiringly fought by the darling wife of Colin and loving mother to Alastair and Fiona. The family and all her many friends are greatly saddened but proud of her great courage. Funeral Service at Wittersham Church at 2 pm on Thursday March 28th. No flowers. Donations in memory to Macmillan Cancer Fund, Anchor House, 15-19 Britten Street, SW3 3TZ.

LOW - On March 22nd, Alastair Petrie Low, O.B.E., I.C.S. (ret'd), aged 83, very dear husband of Mary (Mornie) and very much loved father and grandfather. Thanksgiving Service at Wigtown Parish Church on Thursday March 28th at 1 pm. No flowers please.

McMAHON - On March 24th, after a long battle bravely fought, Thomas Irving (Tim), aged 62 years, of Bramhope, Leeds. Dearly loved husband of Mary and father of Anne and Christopher. Service will take place at St Giles Church, Bramhope, Leeds, on Thursday at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only by request please. Donations to Friends of Leukaemia Unit (Leeds General Infirmary). Enquiries telephone Leeds 705553.

MILLARD - On March 24th 1991, William Edward, aged 82 years. Husband of the late Dorothy, stepfather of Gill and Jackie, brother of Peggy and Bobbie, formerly of Sun Alliance. Funeral Service at Chichester Crematorium on Wednesday March 27th at 9.30 am. Flowers or donations, if desired, to 'The Friends of Bognor Regis War Memorial Hospital', may be sent c/o Reynolds Funeral Service, 31 High Street, Bognor Regis, West Sussex. Tel: (0243) 864745.

MOLONEY - On March 22nd, suddenly, Bessie, widow of E.W.J. "Pat" Moloney, solicitor of Lancing, Sussex. Devoted and much-loved mother of Janet, Elizabeth, Margaret (Ruth), Sara and John, grandmother of Arthur and Leigh. Funeral Service at St James-the-Less, North Lancing, on Thursday March 28th at 10.15 am, followed by cremation. Flowers to S.A. Dunford, 147 South Street, Lancing, BN15 8BD.

MORRISON - On March 25th, 1991, peacefully after a short illness, Theodora Fitzgibbon. Dearly loved wife of George Morrison. Funeral private. Floral tributes to Carnegie Funeral Directors, 19 The Crescent, Monkstown, County Dublin, Republic of Ireland.

NORTON - On March 21st, at home in London, Michael, linguist and raconteur, aged 83. Younger son of the first Baron Rathcreedan. Much loved uncle of Kester, Ryan and Eiluned George and of Christopher, Adam and Elizabeth Norton. Cremation at Caversham Crematorium, Reading, on April 2nd at 2.30 pm. No flowers please, but donations, if desired, to Fight for Sight Appeal, Moorfields Hospital, Judd Street, WC1H 9QS.

NUROCK - On March 23rd, in Beaconsfield, Bucks., four days before her 97th birthday, Bertha Nurock, widow of the late Max Nurock, beloved mother of Aviva and Myfanwy and cherished mother-in-law of Michael and Robert. Sorrowfully mourned by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. May her generous soul rest in everlasting peace. Her funeral took place at Amersham Crematorium on Monday March 25th. No flowers by request but donations may be made to The Cystic Fibrosis Research Trust c/o The Manager, National Westminster Bank, 1 Penn Road, Beaconsfield, Bucks. HP9 2PU.

PASMORE - On March 22nd, in New Orleans after an accident, David, son of Dr. and Mrs Pasmore, husband of Trena and father of Jemma, Ben and John. No flowers, but donations if desired to Louisiana Head Injury Foundation. Enquiries to (081) 748-8401.

POMEROY - On March 22nd 1991, suddenly, Brian Pomeroy, aged 79. Dearly loved husband of Lucy and father of Tom, Simon and Louise. Funeral private. No flowers. Service of Thanksgiving at St Peter's Church, Tiverton, at 11.30 am on Friday April 5th.

REAY-MACKEY - On March 24th, Moira Leslie Reay-Mackey. Funeral will take place at St Lawrence's Church, Chobham, on Tuesday March 28th at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations to Imperial Cancer Research Fund, PO Box 123 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PX or to Cinnamon Trust, Poldarves Farm, Trescowe Common, Germoe, Penzance, TR20 9RX.

REYNOLDS - On March 23rd, peacefully in Deal, P. Joyce Reynolds, aged 92. Funeral at Barham Crematorium at 1pm, Thursday March 28th.

RUST - On March 23rd 1991, at Corfe Mullen, Margo, aged 93, widow of Richard Rust. Funeral at St John's, Broadstone, at 3.30 pm Wednesday March 27th. Flowers to Charles Small, 15 West Street, Wimborne, Dorset.

SALMON - On March 23rd, Mary, in her 100th year, widow of Sidney, mother of Joan Quirk. Cremation at Tunbridge Wells, 9.30 am, Thursday March 28th 1991.

SAMORLYS - On March 20th 1991, peacefully at Weald Hall, Wadhurst, E. Sussex, May Henrietta (née Sechiari), in her 98th year, widow of "Sammy". Funeral private. Family flowers only. Enquiries to C. Waterhouse & Sons, tel: (0435) 882219.

SCHARF - On March 21st, at Trinity Hospice, very peacefully after a valiant fight, Felicie (Fee), wife of the late Dr. Alfred Scharf, dearest friend, mother and mother-in-law of Ursula and David and greatly loved by her grandchildren Martin and Steffie. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium (East Chapel) on Tuesday April 2nd at 11.20. Donations in lieu of flowers to either The National Art - Collections Fund or Trinity Hospice Clapham, in her memory would be appreciated.

STEVENS - On March 21st, peacefully in hospital, Violet (née Gryffin), widow of Lt. Col. Eric Stevens, much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral, 2 pm Tuesday April 2nd, St James, Heyshott, followed by private cremation. No flowers by request. Donations if desired to Emergency Cardiac Care System, King Edward VII Hospital, Midhurst.

TRIPP - On March 24th 1991, Major Charles William Howard Tripp D.S.O., American Silver Star of Nithdale Gore, New Zealand. Justice of the Peace in his 90th year. Commanding Officer, First Commando Fiji Guerrillas 1941-1944. Beloved husband of the late Myra, loved father and father-in-law of Margaret and the late Howard, Dick and Sally, Edith, Ross and Graham and Leonard. Loved and respected by his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

van AMERONGEN - On March 21st 1991, at home after a long illness, Alida Cornelia, beloved wife of Carel and mother of Victor. Funeral Service at The City of London Crematorium, Aldersbrook Road, London E12, at 10 am on Thursday April 4th.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

LEE - Delphine. The funeral will take place at Compton Crematorium, nr. Guildford, on Thursday March 28th at 12.30 pm. Floral tributes to Pimms Funeral Service, Charters, Mary Road, Guildford or donations if desired to Cancer Research.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

WARREN - Barbara and Tony. In loving memory of my darling parents on this their Golden Wedding Day. With my love always. Jane.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHITE

A concert to the memory of the late H. Michael White will be given by the Cavendish Quartet at the House of St Barnabas-in-Soho, 1 Greek Street, London W1 on Tuesday April 9 at 7.30 pm. Tickets, price £10, may be obtained from the House.

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WANTED

AUTHOR wishes to contact individuals involved in the post war Soviet wives affair. 071 434 9645.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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NOTTING HILL, Own room, male/female. £49pw. (0856) 405302 (ref 33/44 gent).

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PUTNEY 2 flatmates required to share 3 bed lux house £75pw each. 071 371 5668

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QUEENS PARK NW6, share large comfortable apartment, double room, £290 pcm. 071-372 5321

SWISS COTTAGE Prof N/S to share lux appt. Own room, CH, W/M, D/W, TV. Nr tube. £80pw incl. Tel: 071-624 3092.

SW7 professional female, own room, £280 per month inclusive. 071 584 1963.

SW17 Sunny dble rm. Lux hse, garden. £55 pw excl. 081-672 4906 H. 071-629 0113 O.

VICTORIA PARK 5 mins City. Prof to shr lux hse, O/R. N/S. £65pw. Tel 081-985 4631 eves.

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W11. O/R F, all mod cons. £350 pcm inc. 071-229 6043 Eve. 071 0304 Ext. 226.

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AMERICAN BANK & Senior Executives from multi-national corporations urgently require luxury flats & houses for 1-3 years. Rental allowances £250-£3,000 pw. SW1/ 3/ 7, W8. Burgess Estates 071-581 5136.

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BATTERSEA PARK Lge lux flat. 2 beds, 2 recep, all mod cons, close transport, f/f. Low p/tax. £180pw. 081-994 6138 1st inst

CHELSEA Spacious 2 bed flat, bathrm & en-suite shower rm, elegantly furn & equipped, all appliances. £575 pw. Drury 071 379 4816

CHELSEA SW3 Lge 1 bedrm flat in exc location, well furn + dec £250pw neg F W Gapp 071 243 0964

CHELSEA SW10. Unfurn 4 bed, 2 bath house. Brand new kitchen, spac recep, well dec £370pw Flatlink 071 287 4011

CHELSEA SW3. Superb, v. lux studio flat ff kit nr tube. Bargain £140 pw inc. 071 381 4998 t.

CHISWICK. Superb, bright, lux 1 dbl bed flat, ff kit, nr tube, barg £160 pw 071-381 4998t

CITY Pied à terre/office, superb location. FLEET ST. £200 pw. Co. let. 081 340 6968.

CLAPHAM SW11. Superb bright lux 1 dbl bed flat ff kit gdn bargain £120 pw. 071 381 4998 t.

CL Westminster Elegant interior designed lux mac 3 bedrm flat. Fabulous new kit. Lux bthrm. D/room. S/room. Close tube. £275pw. 071-793 1095

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EARLSFIELD. Superb, v lux. 2 bed cottage. Beautiful gdn, must view. £160 pw. 071-381 4998 t

EUROPEAN & American Bankers & Diplomats urgently require luxury flats & houses in Belgravia, Knightsbridge, Chelsea & Pimlico. Contact Keith Cardale Groves. 071-730 6191

FULHAM SW6 1 bed flat, fully furnished nr shops, restaurants launderette & other facilities. Moderate condition thus price £112pw 071 610 0583 anytime

FULHAM SW6. Superb bright lux 1 dbl bed flat ff kit gdn nr Tube £160 pw. 071 381 4998 t.

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FW GAPP (Management Services) Ltd Require properties in central, south & west London areas for waiting applicants. Tel: 071-243 0964.

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KENSINGTON W8 Charming 2 bed house on edge of Hillgate village. 6 months let. £275pw. 071 229 5940.

KENSINGTON Stunning lgt dss 1 bed, opp Kens Gdns £260pw About Town 071 221 0111

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MULTI-NATIONAL Corporate companies require quality furn/unfurnished properties in Fulham/Parsons Green areas. Foxtons 071-381 8020.

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SHEP BUSH Superb bright newly dec lux 1 dbl bd flt nr the Barg £125pw 071 381 4998 t

SLOANE SQ. SW3 Very pretty sunny studio flat, kit + bath, lots storage. £185pw neg F W Gapp 071 243 0964

SW1, Pimlico 1 bed, recep, K&B, pretty grnd flr new convsn £700pm. 071 834 1026 T.

SW1, Pimlico, Own bedroom, recep & kitchen. Share bathrm. £470pm. 071 834 1026 T.

SW1, Pimlico, 1 bed recep & bath, wall fitted kitchen. £780pm. 071 834 1026 T.

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COMPANY NOTICES

PROVIDENT MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 160th Annual General Meeting of the Association will be held at the Barber Surgeon's Hall, Monkwell Square, London EC2Y 5BL on Wednesday 17 April 1991 at 12.30 pm. to include the following:

1 To adopt the Report and Accounts for 1990
2 To re-elect Mr. Valentine Patrick Fleming as a Director of the Association.
3 To re-elect Mr. Martin Charles Findlay as a Director of the Association.
4 To re-elect Mr. Simon Manwaring Robertson as a Director of the Association.
5 To re-appoint Price Waterhouse as Auditors of the Association to hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual General Meeting.

V.C.G. Steadman Secretary
6 March 1991
Provident Mutual Life Assurance Association
Head Office and Registered Address
25-31 Moorgate London EC2R 6BA
Registered No. 8870

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charities - United Westminster Almshouses Group of Charities

The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for these charities. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at 42 Rochester Row London SW1P 1BU, or obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX quoting reference FAD-226956 A/2-LA. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

LEGAL NOTICES

T.B. TRAVEL LIMITED
(In voluntary liquidation)
(Formerly known as Temple Bar Travel Limited)

NOTICE is hereby given that the Creditors of the above-named Company are required on or before the 3rd day of May 1991 to send to their names and addresses, with particulars of their Debts or Claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned DAVID ALASTAIR THOMAS WOOD FCA of LATHAM CROSSLEY AND DAVIS, 45 CONDUIT STREET, LONDON W1R 9FB the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing by the said Liquidator, are, by their Solicitors or personally to come in and prove their said Debts or Claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated 18th March 1991
D.A.T. Wood FCA
Liquidator

T.M.W. TIMBER AND BUILDING MERCHANTS LIMITED

I, JAMIE TAYLOR F.I.P.A. of POPPLETON & APPLEBY, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the above-named Company on the 18th February 1991 by the Members and Creditors.
Dated: 21st March 1991
J. Taylor F.I.P.A.
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

ADVANCE SURFACE TECHNOLOGY (SOUTHERN) LIMITED

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named company will be held at The Green Dragon, 20 Dragon Street, Petersfield, Hampshire, GU31 4AB on the 9th day of April 1991 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 and 101 of the said Act.

Mr D B Coakley of Leach Bright & Partners, Langton Priory, Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5EH, is qualified to act as an insolvency practitioner in relation to the above company and will furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as is reasonably required.

Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged with the Company's Registered Office at Leach Bright & Partners, Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5EH not later than 12 noon on the 8th day of April 1991.
Dated this 28th day of March 1991
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
J.W. FURLONGER
DIRECTOR

ALLPLAN INTERIORS LIMITED

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above-named Company will be held at The White Swan, Walton Street, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP20 1TZ on the 11th day of April 1991 at 11:00 a.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 100 to 101 of the said Act.

Mr D B Coakley of Leach Bright & Partners, Langton Priory, Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5EH, is qualified to act as an insolvency practitioner in relation to the above company and will furnish creditors free of charge with such information concerning the company's affairs as is reasonably required.

Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged with the Company's Registered Office at Leach Bright & Partners, Portsmouth Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 5EH not later than 12 noon on the 10th day of April 1991.
Dated this 19th day of March 1991
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
J. PLASTER
DIRECTOR

BANSPEED REINFORCEMENTS LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above-named company will be held at: Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London, EC2V 7DQ on 3 April 1991 at 11.00 am for the purposes mentioned in sections 99 and 101 of the said Act.

A list of names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected free of charge at: Shelley House, 3 Noble Street, London EC2V 7DQ between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm on 28 March 1991 and 2 April 1991.
DATED 20 March 1991
By order of the Board
S Winterflood
Director

Diamond Health Care Limited - In Administrative Receivership - Registered Number: 2271489. Trading Name used by Company in last 12 months: Robins Close. Names of Administrative Receivers: Philip G Byrne and Peter R Copp both. Address: Stoy Hayward Oakfield House Oakfield Grove Clifton Bristol BS8 2BN. Date of Appointment: 15 March 1991. Appointor: Alliance & Leicester Building Society. Nature and date of instrument conferring Power to Appoint: Debenture dated 30 June 1989. Brief description of any asset over which Administrative Receivers are not appointed. None.
Signed on: 20 March 1991
Philip G Byrne
Joint Administrative Receiver

ERAHAVEN LIMITED

I, JAMIE TAYLOR F.I.P.A. of POPPLETON & APPLEBY, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the above-named Company on the 22nd February 1991 by the Members and Creditors.
Dated: 21st March 1991
J. Taylor F.I.P.A.
Liquidator

GROVE ELECTROPLATING (STOCKPORT) LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN *pursuant to Section 98 of the* Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Poppleton and Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD on Wednesday the 3rd day of April 1991 at 12.00 noon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

Pursuant to Section 98, Subsection (2)(a) of the Act, Mr Denis J Kilroy and Mr Stephen Lord of Poppleton & Appleby, 32 High Street, Manchester, M4 1QD are appointed to act as the Qualified Insolvency Practitioners who will furnish creditors with such information as they may reasonably require.
DATED THIS 19TH DAY OF MARCH, 1991
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
J PODMORE
DIRECTOR

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
No. 002249 of 1991
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF BENSON GROUP PLC
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 25th February 1991 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £6,000,000 to £1,500,000.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Honourable Mr Justice Mervyn Davies at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Monday the 15th day of April 1991.

ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to *oppose the making of an order for* the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.
DATED this 21st day of March 1991
Pinsent & Co of Post & Mail House, 26 Colmore Circus, Birmingham B4 6BH, Solicitors for the above-named Company.

IN THE MATTER OF HILLS GOWNS LIMITED
AND
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT, 1986

Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 19th April 1991 to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned D.A.T. Wood of Latham Crossley & Davis, Arkwright House, Parsonage Gardens, Manchester M3 2LE the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by Notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
Dated 26 March 1991
David A T Wood
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

SALIAN BUILDING SUPPLIES LIMITED
(IN RECEIVERSHIP)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48(2) of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a Meeting of the Unsecured Creditors of the above-named company will be held at the offices of Robson Rhodes, 186 City Road, London, on the 18th day of April at 10 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purpose of having laid before it a copy of the report prepared by the Administrative Receivers under section 48 of the said Act. The meeting may, if it thinks fit, establish a creditors' committee to exercise the functions conferred on by or under the Act.

Creditors are only entitled to vote if:
a. they have delivered to us at the address shown above, no later than 12.00 hours on the business day before the meeting, written details of the debts they claim to be due, and the claim has been duly admitted under the provisions of the Insolvency Rules 1986 and
b there has been lodged with us any proxy which the creditor intends to use on his behalf.
Date this 15th day of March 1991
N H Cooper
and I Jacob
Joint Administrative Receivers
NOTE
Creditors may obtain a copy of the report, free of charge, on application to the administrative receivers at the address shown above.

THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
RESORTS LEISURE EXCHANGE LIMITED

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above-named Company is to be held at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB on 28 April 1991 at 11.45 a.m for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 to 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. as from 23 April 1991.

Proxies to be used at the meeting must be lodged at the registered office of the company situated at 76 New Cavendish Street, London W1M 7LB not later than 12 noon on 24 April 1991.
Dated: 12 March 1991
R PEIRES
Director

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
Characters Creative Services Limited
-In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I, Malcolm Cohen, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner, of Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA and Helen Phillips, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Phillips & Co, 9a Station Road, Gerrards Cross, Bucks were appointed Joint Liquidators of the above named company on 8 March 1991. All debts and claims should be sent to Helen Phillips at the above address.

All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to us. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated: 14 March 1991
M COHEN
Liquidator

THE INSOLVENCY RULES 1986
RULE 4.106(1)
The Leisure Emporium plc
In Creditors' Voluntary Liquidation

I HEREBY GIVE NOTICE that I, Malcolm Cohen, Licensed Insolvency Practitioner, of Stoy Hayward, 8 Baker Street, London W1M 1DA, was appointed Liquidator of the above named company on 8 March 1991. All debts and claims should be sent to me at the above address.

All creditors who have not already done so are invited to prove their debts in writing to me. No further public advertisement of invitation to prove debts will be given.
Dated: 14 March 1991
M COHEN
Liquidator

TOWN & COUNTRY DAIRIES LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a *MEETING of the CREDITORS of* the above-named company will be held at The Bexley House Hotel, Bexley Road, Bexley Village, Nr Maidstone, Kent on 28 March 1991 at 10.30 am for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99 to 101 of the said Act. A list of the names and addresses of the company's creditors may be inspected free of charge at the offices of Cork Gully, Orchard House, 10 Albion Place, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5DZ between 10.00 am and 5.00 pm on the 26 March 1991 and 27 March 1991.

Creditors wishing to vote at the meeting must (unless they are individual creditors attending in person) lodge their proxies at the offices of Cork Gully at Orchard House, 10 Albion Place, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5DZ no later than 4.00 pm on 27 March 1991. Please note that the original proxy signed by or on behalf of the creditor must be lodged at the address mentioned: photocopies (including faxed copies) are not acceptable.

Unless there are exceptional circumstances, creditors will not be entitled to vote unless their proofs have been lodged and admitted for voting purposes. A proof may be lodged by submitting a written statement of claim clearly setting out the name and address of the creditor and the amount claimed. Whilst proofs may be lodged at any time before voting commences, creditors intending to vote at the meeting are requested to send them with their proxies. Unless they surrender their security, secured creditors must give particulars of their security and its value if they wish to vote at the meeting.
DATED this 14th day of March 1991
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
DAVID JOHN KIDD
Director

V.V.S. LIMITED

I, TERENCE JOHN ROPER F.I.P.A. of POPPLETON & APPLEBY, 4 Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN was appointed Liquidator of the above-named Company on the 14th February 1991 by the Members and Creditors.
Dated: 21st March 1991
J. Taylor F.I.P.A.
Liquidator

LEGAL NOTICES

Notice of appointment of Administrative Receiver
MILL HOUSE LEISURE LIMITED

Registered number: 2277973. Nature of Business: Caterers. Trade classification: 46. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 20 March 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: National Westminster Bank Plc. Joint Administrative Receivers: P S Padmore and P R C Denham (office holder nos: 8600 and 1934) Address: The Quay 30 Channel Way Ocean Village Southampton SO1 1XF.

KAPGOLD LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above named company will be held at 6 Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1A 2LP, on Monday, 13th May, 1991 at 2.00 p.m. for the purposes mentioned in Sections 48 and 49 of the said Act.
Dated this twentieth day of March, 1991
PANOS ELIADES
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receiver
SCL Business Equipment Limited

Registered number: 1984660. Nature of business: General Merchants. Trade classification: 38. Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 19 March 1991. Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: National Westminster Bank Plc. Joint Administrative Receivers Peter Richard Copp and Anthony Peter Supperstone (office holder nos: 1788 and 2703) Address: Stoy Hayward 8 Baker Street London W1M 1DA

Notice of Administration Order
IN THE MATTER OF REISS FASHION STORES LIMITED
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

Registered number: 1119612. Nature of business: Clothing Retailer Trade classification: 17. Administration Order made: 18 March 1991 Joint administrators (office holder nos): P R Copp (1788) and R Hocking (2322)

RE: Family Ties Limited
and
The Insolvency Act 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Woodford Moat House, 30 Oak Hill, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9NY on Wednesday the 3rd April 1991, at 10.00 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Segal Davis Rose, Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford Essex, IG1 1JQ between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm as from Thursday 28th March 1991.
Dated this 15th day of March 1991
K Hilton
Director

REGENTS PARK MOTOR COMPANY LIMITED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act, 1986, that a Meeting of Creditors of the above named company will be held at 6 Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1A 2LP, on Friday, 17th May, 1991 at 2.00 p.m for the purposes mentioned in Sections 48 and 49 of the said Act.
Dated this twentieth day of March, 1991
PANOS ELIADES
ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER

Registered in England
No. 1872114
IN THE MATTER OF THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
and
IN THE MATTER OF CITY & COMMERCIAL SERVICES LTD

REGISTERED OFFICE: 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN
BUSINESS ADDRESS: Suite One, 65 London Wall, London, EC2 MTU

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN Pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a MEETING of the CREDITORS of the above Named Company will be held on 18th April 1991 at 4 Charterhouse Square, London EC1 at 12.00 noon for the purposes mentioned in Section 99 et seq of the said Act.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that Jamie Taylor, FIPA, of 4, Charterhouse Square, London, EC1M 6EN is appointed to act as the qualified Insolvency Practitioner pursuant to Section 98 (2)(a) of the said Act who will furnish Creditors with such information as they may require.
DATED this 18th day of March 1991
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Sally Ball
DIRECTOR

RE: Runmarr Ltd T/A Watkins Transparencies
and
The Insolvency Act 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act, 1986 that a Meeting of the Creditors of the above named Company will be held at Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford Essex, IG1 1JQ on Thursday the 4th April 1991, at 10.00 o'clock in the forenoon, for the purposes mentioned in Sections 99, 100 and 101 of the said Act.

A list of the names and addresses of the Company's Creditors will be available for inspection free of charge at the offices of Segal Davis Rose, Treviot House, 186-192 High Road, Ilford Essex, IG1 1JQ between 10.00 am and 4.00 pm as from Tuesday the 2nd April 1991.
Dated this 15th day of March 1991
R Sellamutha
Director

RICKARD & KENNEDY LIMITED

Notice is hereby given that the Creditors of the above named Company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before the 21st April 1991, to send in their full forenames and surname, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned G.J. Beever, Creswell Crabtree & Sons, Barclays Bank Chambers, Hebden Bridge, West Yorkshire, HX7 6AA, the Liquidator of the said Company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are, personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution made before such debts are proved.
G.J.Beever, Liquidator
20th March 1991

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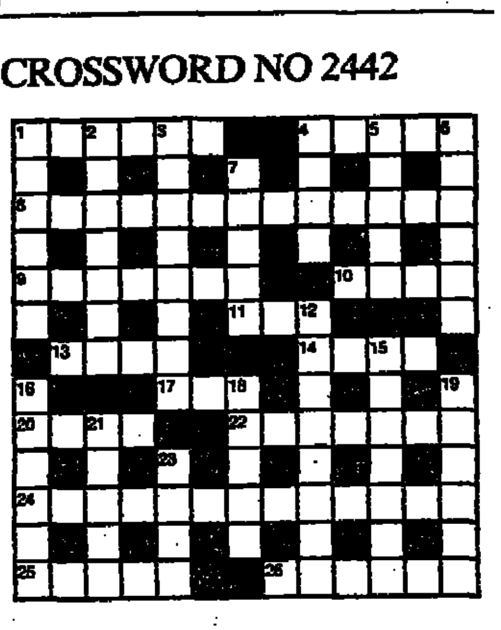

ACROSS
1 Nonsense (6)
4 Pan troglodytes (5)
8 Predisposed to mishaps (8-5)
9 Face bristles (7)
10 Thames island (4)
11 Depressed (3)
13 Smear (4)
14 Kuwait invader (4)
17 Barrage (3)
20 Final (4)
22 Accomplish (7)
24 Superior position (7,6)
25 Verse (5)
26 Dozen (6)

DOWN
1 Tribute (6)
2 True (7)
3 Pest-eating beetle (8)
4 Manage (4)
5 Paradox (5)
6 Attractive (6)
7 Show backer (5)
12 Pull out (8)
15 Without gender (7)
16 Thin slice (6)
18 Creator (5)
19 Interfere (6)
21 Bright (5)
23 EC liquid surplus (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 2441

ACROSS: 1 Woe 3 Bolted 6 Virgo 8 Quest 9 Paralyse 10 Scram 12 Kif 14 Tahiti 16 Ostler 18 Mix 20 Queen 23 Affluent 24 Vogue 25 Mango 26 Steady 27 Nay

DOWN: 1 Whippet 2 Every 3 Bonsai 4 Truncate 5 Disease 7 Roll 11 Sinecure 12 Kim 13 Fox 15 Aqueous 17 Rectify 19 Infamy 21 Plan 22 Melon

Applying French polish for a stylish connection

Twenty years of designing soft, practical clothes, first for French Connection, and now under her own label, have brought Nicole Farhi (above) a British Design Award. **Liz Smith reports**

There is something about the citation for design excellence accompanying her British Design Award (presented by the Design Council last week) that particularly pleases Nicole Farhi.

The French-born fashion designer has already received two acknowledgements of her work from the industry — a British Fashion Council award in 1989 (for British classics), and a nomination for another BFC award last year. But the fact that her clothes have been measured as "products", not fashion, in the hard-nosed consumer business, and judged on their "value for money and commercial performance", gives her the added satisfaction of seeing her whole design ethos vindicated.

She is the first fashion designer to win a British Design Award in four years (the last was the knitwear specialist, Sarah Dallas). "It touches me a lot," Ms Farhi says. "I always try to make clothes that women want to wear, and not just fashion ideas to play around with."

She has been applying her innate French chic to producing practical yet immensely stylish clothes for the past 20 years. Trained at the Ecole Bercot in Paris, she was working at Pierre d'Alby in 1973 when Stephen Marks, the British agent for the d'Alby collection at the time, whisked her to London to design exclusively for him. For ten years she worked anonymously, creating his French Connection ranges for women and men, as well as his upmarket, more tailored Stephen Marks line. Her sketches, converted by factories in Hong Kong, New Delhi or Newcastle into clothes with a strong, understated style, became the basics of a fashionable wardrobe that sold around the world.

In the designer-conscious Eighties, when every store transformed itself into shopping malls of designer boutiques, Ms Farhi stepped out from her backstage role and into the limelight. In 1983 a Nicole Farhi shop, carrying an exclusive own-label line separate from French Connection, opened in Harvey Nichols in London. By the time the first Nicole Farhi shop opened in London's St Christopher's Place, the demand from retailers and customers for her own-label clothes was so great that the Stephen Marks collection was renamed Nicole Farhi.

"Everything changed the day I had my name on the label," she says.

"Stephen gave me *carte blanche* to create what I want. When we started French Connection I was young and designed the sort of clothes I enjoyed wearing. But I had always felt I was hiding behind the Stephen Marks label. It existed already and I stepped in to create more tailored suits and coats for a different customer who was not me. Now I design the soft, easy styles in lovely fabrics that I want for myself."

Easy going: left, Nicole Farhi's beige trenchcoat; above, grey textured suit and silk shirt

Two assistants work with her on the Nicole Farhi ranges for men and women, and the Nicole Farhi Diversion line of sporty separates launched in 1988. Many of her preliminary sketches are done at weekends in the conservatory at her home in Hampstead, London, where she lives with her 15-year-old daughter, Candice. Five years ago she took up sculpture.

"There is no connection between my clothes designs and sculpture. It is just part of my personal development and self-discovery," she says.

She remains a major shareholder in French Connection since its flotation on the Stock Exchange in 1983. The group has a £60 million turnover worldwide. In 1989, when the Nicole Farhi men's collection was launched, she handed over the designing of the French Connection ranges (womenswear, menswear, Eternal denim jeans and knitwear, Great Plains colourful separates, and the more expensive and sportier Future Classics) to a team of five designers, all working in the same studio in Bow, east London. "I can look over their shoulders, and it is all done with the same design philosophy," she says.

As well as the in-store shops in *Harvey Nichols* and Selfridges, there are now Nicole Farhi shops in London (St Christopher's Place, W1; Sloane Street, SW1; Covent Garden, WC2; and Hampstead, NW3), Oslo; Tokyo and New York. The collections also sell well in stores across Europe, the United States and the Far East.

> *'Everything changed the day I had my name on the label'*

"Creating the Nicole Farhi collection was as exciting as starting all over again," she says. "*I buy for our shops* and it is a good lesson in design. It teaches me how to edit the collection and fill in the gaps."

Knitwear has become an important part of the Nicole Farhi range, for example. There is one white silk shirt in the collection, in a washed silk, that she has made, and worn, for five years. The basic blue jeans in her Diversion collection, perfectly cut with narrow legs and an easy, low-waisted fit are constant top-sellers with customers, as well as being the basis of her own favourite uniform, worn with a T-shirt and loose jacket.

Her taste for simply styled clothes in sensuous fabrics which, expensive or not, give value for money is shared by her customers. Sales of Nicole Farhi collections were up by 30 per cent last year, and even *in a recession her clothes* continue to sell. A short trenchcoat in pean-de-pêche costs £400; a textured jacket (£286) and matching trousers (£190) in a cotton/wool mix are teamed with a silk shirt (£134). Suede bomber jackets (£425) match linen trousers (£134). There are little tops to go under suits in fine wool crêpe or gabardine, wonderfully textured sweaters, and washed or embroidered silk shirts. Evening clothes are as understated in design as her daywear, but in more luxurious fabrics. Colours are always muted and there are always the good-looking neutrals — navy, black and white.

"My taste has never been fussy, but today I want clothes that are even more simple," she says. "I put a lot of work *into the fit as well as the* choice of fabric and colour. I try everything on myself. The same philosophy applies to menswear. I give them simple shapes in softer fabrics. At the end of the day the look changes little."

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Beginning on 21 March 1991 the £5,000 holding limit for Index-linked 5th Issue Savings Certificates is doubled to £10,000.
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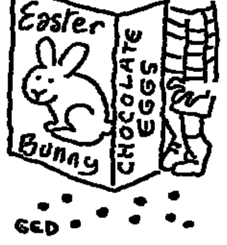
Issued by the Department for National Savings on behalf of the Treasury

Exceedingly good in parts?

Never mind the chocolate quality, feel the cardboard width on an Easter egg

EASTER eggs started life as models of neat and natural packaging: eggs with painted shells. Now they are money-spinners for the chocolate companies, a playground for packagers, and a design consultant's nightmare.

Sales of Easter eggs are worth £175 million a year. How much of that is for what you eat and how much for the wrapping, nobody will tell, but chocolate bought as Easter eggs costs three times as much as in ordinary bars. "The wrapping is pure anarchy," says Fiona Gilmore, the managing director of the design consultants Lewis Moberly. "It seems the chocolate makers insist all year *that everything* in their presentation is consistent with their brand image, then at Easter they say, 'Forget about brand values. Let's have fun.' "



Lewis Moberly has a £3 million turnover and its designs are on the shelves of every supermarket. It is responsible for Asda's image-enhancing wine labels and the look of Cadbury's Milk Tray, but has never yet been asked to design an Easter egg pack.

"From the look of it," says Mark Pearce, the design director, gloomily surveying a selection of Easter eggs, "I hardly think any design consultancy has. It's a shame, because eggs offer wonderful opportunities. They are simply wasted in all these structure-led designs which look as if they have been thrown together by carton makers eager to use as much cardboard as they can. It is as if the picture frame has got more and more ornate, so that you only see the frame and nothing of the picture."

Mr Pearce picked up a Smarties 100g egg in its cardboard sheath. "This is among the better ones," he said. The pack featured a cartoon whale spouting chocolate buttons. "Children like characters, but I don't know what a whale has to do with Easter."

Smarties scored better with a three-pack of Egg Heads, with cartoon character faces on wrapping foil (99g for 99p), held together in a card sleeve. "Very neat, very minimal," Mr Pearce said. "They have been subject to price constraints for the lower end of the market, and it has helped."

Miss Gilmore liked a Milka Easter bunny wrapped in lilac foil and sporting a green bow tie. "It stands out on the shelves at Tesco because, unlike the others, it isn't in a box," she said. "As a result you actually get 200g of chocolate. Usually the more cardboard, the thinner the chocolate shell."

Marks & Spencer has co-opted the Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles for its best-seller — a foil-wrapped egg sitting in what the box describes as "an awesome ceramic mug". Miss Gilmore did wonder if "a lot of mothers would buy anything rather than let more turtles into the house".

Cathy Lauzon, Lewis Moberly's director of packaging technology, found some almost original Easter eggs at Selfridges selling for £1.60 — real egg shells painted in bright colours and packed with 60g of chocolate praline. They are individually wrapped in recycled paper, and if you buy six they are put into a standard egg carton with a plain printed explanatory label.

"It is creating a use for recycled paper," Miss Lauzon said, "but perhaps the carton should be reconsidered." We cracked the shells. Blue, green and yellow paint came off on our fingers. "Well, there is an opportunity for product improvement there," Miss Gilmore said quietly. It summed up the meeting's general feeling.

ROBIN YOUNG

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ARCH 26 1991

An idea too good not to share

In 1951 Mercedes-Benz patented an invention so important to motoring safety that it was more than merely another competitive advantage. It was literally a life-preserving breakthrough – the rigid passenger safety cell protected front and rear by energy-absorbing crumple zones.

So radical an advance was it that Mercedes-Benz decided it would be socially irresponsible to keep the concept to themselves. It was an idea too good not to share. So, in subsequent years, as other car makers gradually absorbed the lessons of such ground-breaking research, Mercedes-Benz *did not* once enforce their patent rights. As a result, the motoring world has become a safer place.

SAFETY CELL NOW FUNDAMENTAL TO CAR DESIGN

Today the steel safety cell is an almost universally copied concept. But, just as Mercedes-Benz were the only manufacturers in the world with the depth of engineering experience needed to invent the safety cell, so they retain their edge today by conducting the most exhaustive crash-testing programme there is.

Copying a principle is one thing. Fully exploiting its potential is quite another. And Mercedes-Benz are ideally placed to know how well they stand in the safety stakes because they crash test competitors' products as well as their own.

Back in the early '50s, however, only one production car, the Mercedes 180, used the rigid passenger capsule. This was a quantum leap by the company that among other things, had also given the volume production car its first independent front suspension, its first anti-lock brakes, its first impact absorbing air-bag, and was among the first to introduce seat belts and the collapsible steering column. An inventory of safety engineering that is without peer.

REWRITING THE SAFETY RULES

These days, Mercedes-Benz conduct crash tests every week. And today, as they have since 1951, Mercedes-Benz demand more of themselves than is ever imposed by the safety legislation of any government.

For example, Mercedes-Benz crash test cars for both the 25% and 40% off-set frontal collisions that their research shows are the most common types of head-on accident. Government statute calls for only 100% head-on collision testing, so that is the route the car-making herd follow. But the stresses of all three types of impact are allowed for in every car body built by Mercedes-Benz.

The result is a range of cars, from the 190 series to the new SL sports car, that are uniquely well-equipped to reduce the risk of serious injury in a major accident. No car maker crash tested their cars at all until Mercedes-Benz showed them the value of such a programme. And where Mercedes-Benz led, again the world eventually followed.

Gradually the full safety jigsaw came together as Mercedes-Benz took the next logical step – improving in-cabin protection. Seat belts, for example, were offered as early as the late '50s.

Then, in 1959, as the crash-testing programme taught *ergonomic engineers its invaluable lessons*, the Mercedes-Benz 220 became the first car equipped with an interior designed to help protect unrestrained occupants during an accident.

New features included a large, padded steering wheel boss; a padded, yielding instrument panel; padded sun visors, window trim and arm-rests; and recessed door handles. And this, remember, was all *more than 30 years ago.*

COMPREHENSIVE COLLISION TESTING

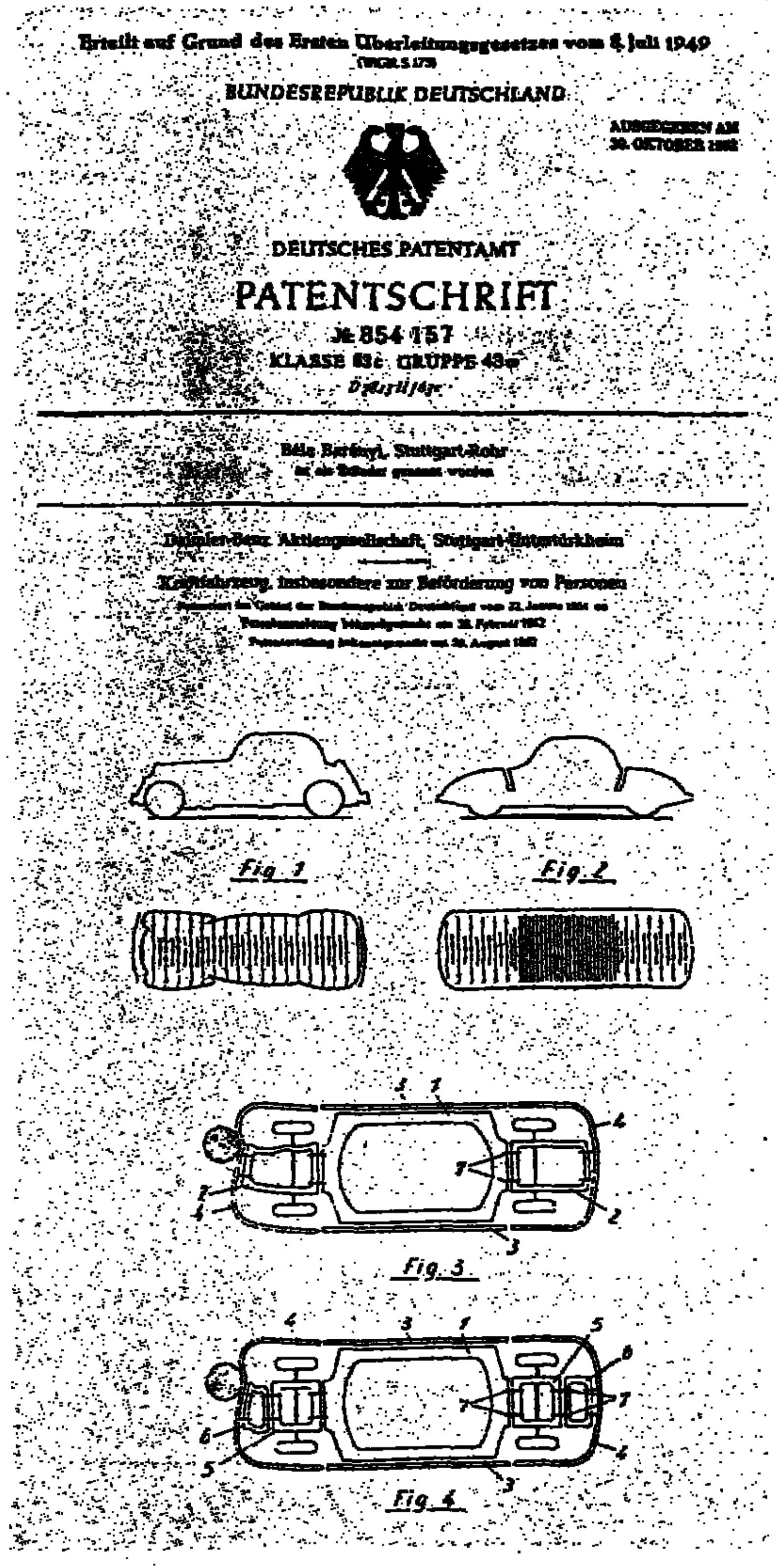
During the '60s and '70s, Mercedes-Benz consolidated their pioneering role in safety engineering. The company was directly involved in developing a lateral roll-over test now used throughout the world. Today, rear-end, side-impact and roof-drop testing are also central to the Mercedes-Benz programme.

Take side-impact testing. Countless experiments have proven to Mercedes-Benz that car doors must combine two essential properties: great impact-absorbing strength that also spreads the protective effort across the even stronger side pillars, floor sills and roof that they must be braced against; burst-proof *locks that can nevertheless be easily opened from* both inside or outside after a major collision.

THERE IS ALWAYS MORE TO DISCOVER

In the 1990s, Mercedes-Benz are pushing as determinedly as ever at the frontiers of safety research. With many hundreds of important patents to their name in safety alone, they continue to add to a storehouse of knowledge that has been garnered, usually in a pioneering role, over the past 60 years.

That rigid safety cell was a pinnacle in a continuous unrivalled record that began with the introduction of independent front suspension to volume cars in 1931, a measure that made them more predictable and sure-footed vehicles to drive. Yet one more idea that was too good not to share.



Erteilt auf Grund des Ersten Überleitungsgesetzes vom 8. Juli 1949

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DEUTSCHES PATENTAMT

PATENTSCHRIFT

№ 854 157

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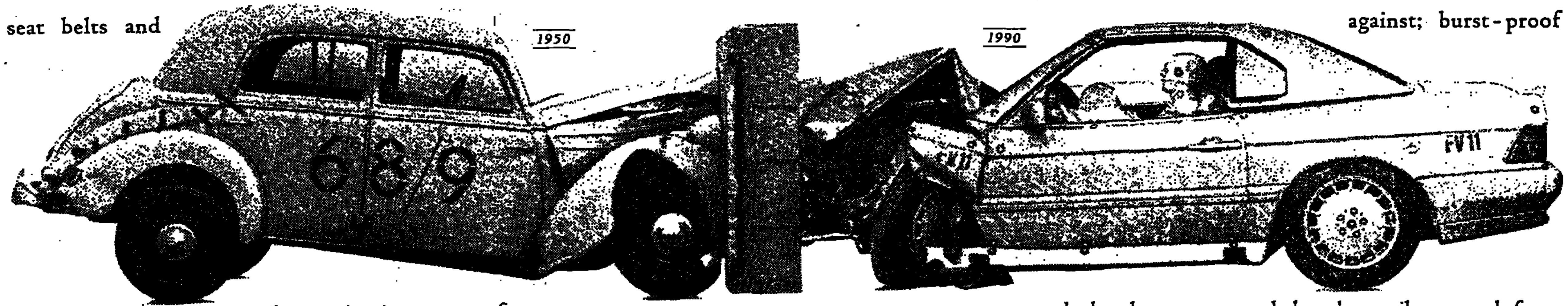
Daimler-Benz Aktiengesellschaft, Stuttgart-Untertürkheim

Kraftfahrzeug, insbesondere zur Beförderung von Personen

Fig 1
Fig 2
Fig 3
Fig 4



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CONCERTS

Secrets of the music makers

The psychological sleuth work and musical chemistry of self-quotation can be as stimulating in performance as it is tedious in musicology. Two weekend concerts, by chance, brought to life side by side two works rife with cryptic inner references: Strauss's *Ein Heldenleben* (Friday, Barbican) and Elgar's *The Music Makers* (Saturday, Festival Hall).

The **Royal Philharmonic** performance of the Strauss, conducted by **Andrew Litton**, carved out in strong clear lines "the hero's works of peace". This brief capitulatory section of the 45-minute fantasy on a hero's life points unambiguously at last to composer-as-hero. Here are the horns of *Don Juan*, fragments from *Also sprach Zarathustra*, *Til Eulenspiegel* and *Don Quixote* and at least five other works, all knotted together (and lucidly and gleefully unfurled by Litton) as a confident banner of the composer's art.

Elgar at the English premiere in 1902 must have been impressed. His conversations with Strauss at the time may well have prompted him to turn the mirror on his own soul as a device in his choral and orchestral setting of O'Shaughnessy's long poem, *The Music Makers*.

The effect, though, could hardly have been more different. Where Strauss, ostensibly expansive and extrovert, points the listener only back to himself, Elgar's obsessively secret and personal self-quotation reaches out and moves the listener by the recognition of a certain elusive quality of shared human experience. The references to the *Enigma* theme and the allusion to *Gerontius* inevitably send out ripples of biographical recollection to the recent death of his friend A.J. Jaeger.

But they also signify a wider continuum of artistic activity. The backwards glance of self-quotation coincides exactly with the verbally exquisite ideas of continuing creativity. And this sense of continuity is musically implicit in the new, exploratory writing that can still surprise the listener.

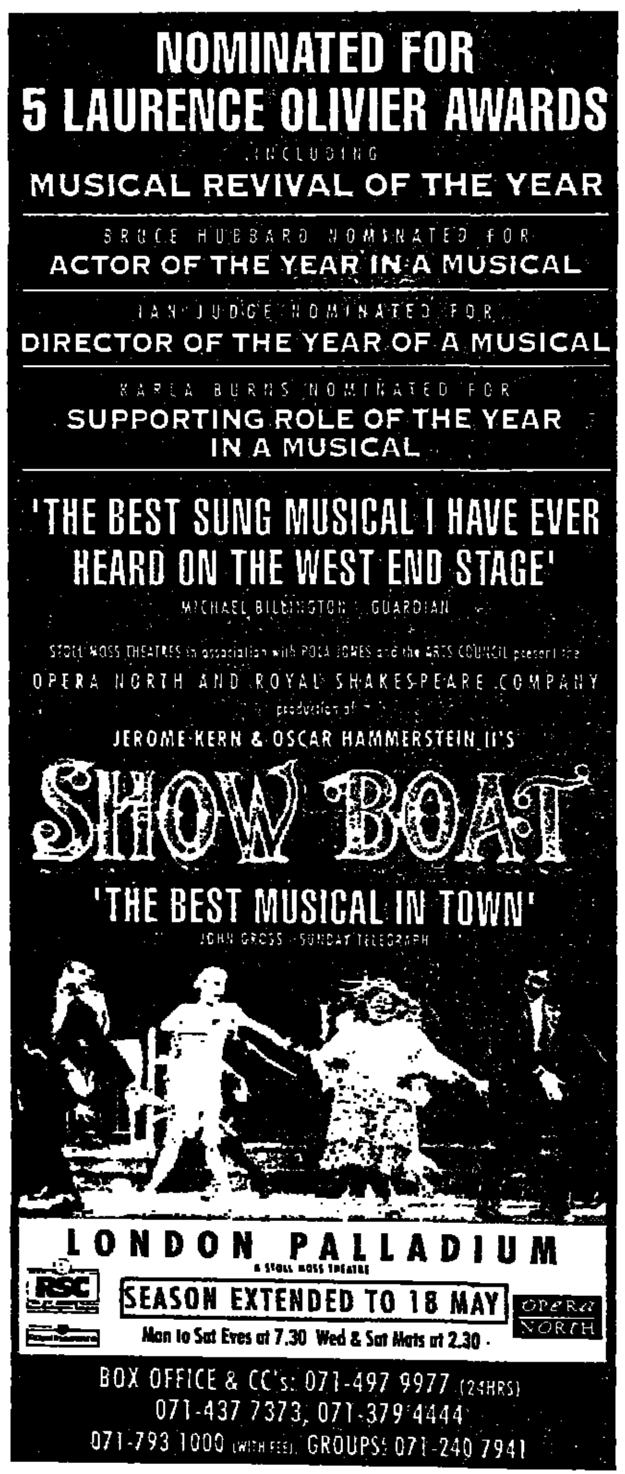
All this was made urgently present in the playing and vividly enunciated singing of the **BBC Symphony Orchestra and Chorus** under **Andrew Davis**. As the chorus subtly varied the orchestra's *Enigma* melody to perform a counterpoint to it, Felicity Palmer scorched her way through to the flame in another man's heart.

The Elgar had been preceded by John Lill's highly intelligent and dextrous performance of Beethoven's Fourth Piano Concerto; the Strauss by a revealing performance of Mahler's orchestral song cycle, the *Rückertlieder*, by Ann Murray.

Scorching: Felicity Palmer

It was sad that, like Bernadette Greevy's complementary *Kindertotenlieder* with the Royal Philharmonic early in the week, such an enrichingly performed programme drew such a small audience. This was Murray at her best, the voice radiating *the physical joy of sun and* spring, combating poetic suffering (and the trombones in the Barbican's acoustics) in "At Midnight" and minutely controlling the half-tones of inner retreat in the songs of dream and withdrawal.

HILARY FINCH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BRUCE HUBBARD NOMINATED FOR
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IAN JUDGE NOMINATED FOR
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SUPPORTING ROLE OF THE YEAR IN A MUSICAL
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GALLERIES: ABERDEEN

Wet through and never dry

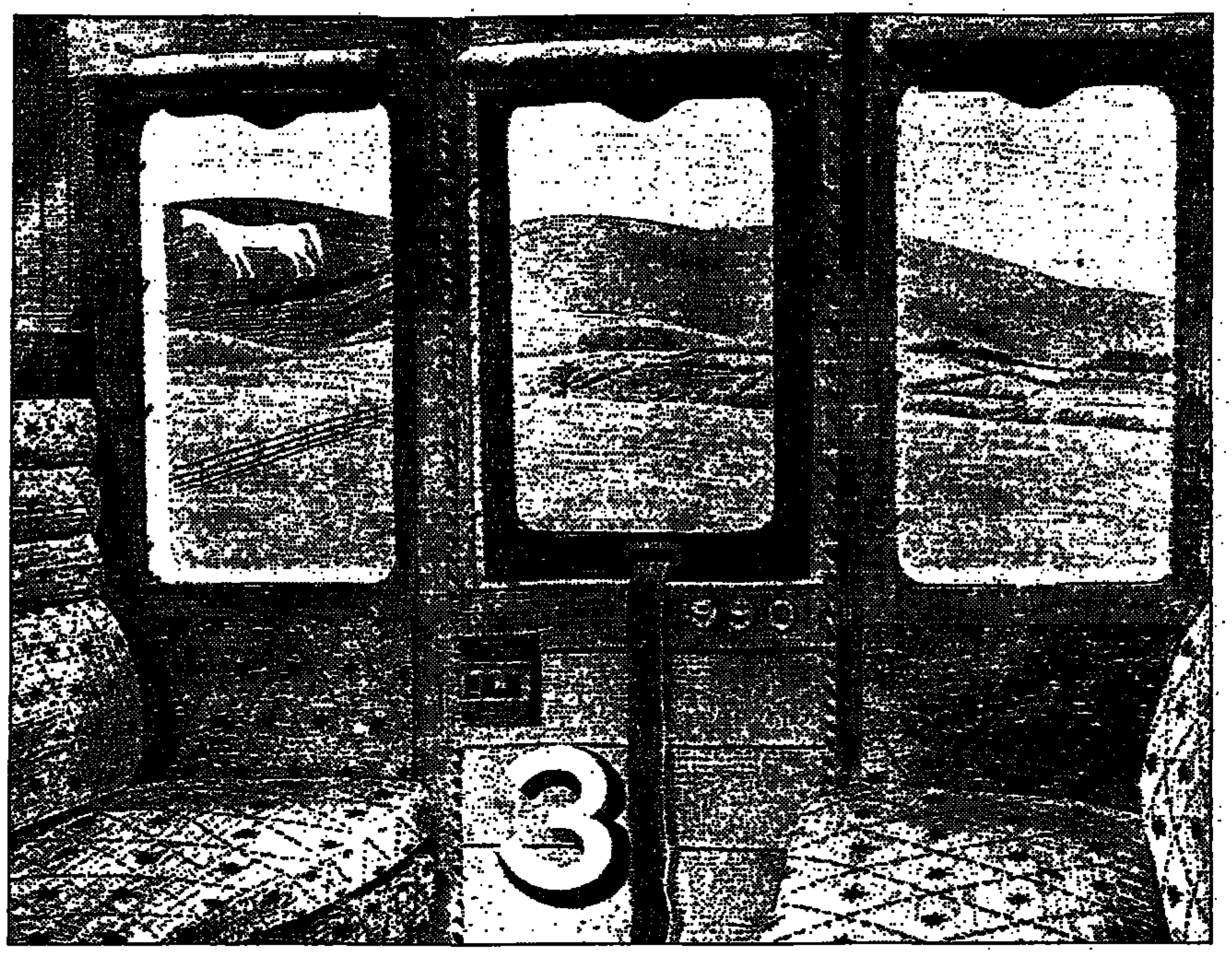
An impressive exhibition of watercolours reveals a medium in which 20th-century artists have excelled, **Andrew Gibbon Williams writes**

If asked to give a novice an overview of 20th-century British paintings I would make straight for Aberdeen. True, the Granite City is not as convenient for the Home Counties as the London Tate but, once there, the visitor is rewarded with a more easily digested, condensed version of the story. It is as if a scrumptious tranche has been sliced from the historical cake: they are all there, from Kit Wood to John Hoyland, from Gwen John to Bridget Riley.

But Aberdeen's art gallery is not only strong in oil painting; its collection of watercolours is one of the finest in Britain. As angels are to the theatre, donors are to provincial art collections. And in the case of Aberdeen's watercolours it is the advocate son of a lord provost who must be thanked. Alexander Webster, who died in 1920, bequeathed his excellent collection and this has been expanded by subsequent donations and intelligent purchases. The Scottish Museums Council recently provided conservation funds, and now sponsorship from Texaco has enabled the pictures to be exhibited in some style.

Watercolour is fundamentally an English invention. English topographical artists developed the technique in the 18th century and their successors strove to fulfil the medium's potential. Yet the fluid, luminous qualities now considered natural are unappealingly absent in early examples. Even the youthful Turner, represented here by a fastidious interior view of Ely Cathedral, was schooled in the "tinted drawing" tradition established by Paul Sandby.

Looking at Sandby's pallid, colour-starved "Landscape with River and Bridge" is like watching black and white television; moving to Samuel Palmer is like turning up the colour. In "The Sacred Ruin" Aberdeen possesses a fine example of this spooky English ruralist: a summer sunset filters through Gothic tracery, dappling the harvesters who still toil among the sheaves.


First class: Eric Ravilious's "Train Landscape", on show in Aberdeen, juxtaposes prehistoric enigma and war tension

Not that it was all plain sailing between the era when watercolour was regarded as second-rate oil painting and the uninhibited scumbling and flooding of an artist such as William McTaggart. Pre-Raphaelite emphasis on drawing diverted watercolour's development into a stylistic cul-de-sac. There is a constipated feel about Millais's three little parable illustrations. Alma-Tadema might just as well have opted for linseed oil to confect his Roman cymbal-player. But in a scintillating study for his miniature masterpiece of "Pegwell Bay", now in the Tate Gallery, that religious son of Aberdeen, William Dyce, forsook his tight, finicky approach to brilliant effect. All in all, though, the High Victorian period was not a high point for watercolour.

To the travelling artist, however, the watercolour box *became indispensable and it is* the weird and wonderful foreign scene which the Victorians described with such freshness and awe that now intrigues and seduces. Enamoured like so many of his generation by the exotic, Sir David Wilkie depicts some Persian *satrap* taking sherbet from his Negro slave. His fellow Scot, David Roberts, whose romantic vision of Egypt still sells well in reproduction, shows the stark Nile light streaming into the atrium of the great temple at Dendera. But neither of these exponents, constrained as they were by an academic training, could let rip in the manner of an Arthur Melville or a John Singer Sargent. Liberated from convention, Sargent deftly summarises the impression made by two blind guitarists in full voice.

> *Paul Sandby is like black and white television; Samuel Palmer is like turning up the colour*

Melville, too, realises that overworking can rob a scene of its vitality; two-thirds of his picture of a bullfight in Aberdeen is blank paper, but blank paper which represents bleaching Spanish sunshine. This is the essence of watercolour.

For once one can say that 20th-century artists have, in general, improved on the efforts of their predecessors. With the renewed interest in our own landscape during the Thirties and Forties, artists such as Edward Bawden opted for watercolour as the perfect way of imparting an uncanny air to basically banal views. In Bawden's hands a row of trees seen in perspective besides the ploughed field can look menacing. Eric Ravilious looks out through a railway carriage in 1940 and sees the famous white horse at Westbury; a prehistoric enigma accentuating the tension of an England at war.

Watercolour lends itself to the disquieting effects of the neo-romanticism practised by artists such as Sutherland and Minton in the Forties, and this survives in the theatrical interpretations of John Piper. Aberdeen owns a stunning 1984 Piper of "Dunnottar Castle" (a landmark not far from Aberdeen) into which one feels the railing Lear might spring at any moment.

Atmospheric washes may have become the favoured way of judging modern watercolours, but artists such as Augustus John also enjoyed the graphic potential. In a curious allegorical representation of Irish peasants, "Le Paradou", he displays his expertise in rapid line drawing. And line has played a large part in the satirical watercolour tradition exemplified at Aberdeen in Rowlandson's cheeky "Coffee House" and F.C.B. Cadell's caricature "The Army Medical".

The art historian Francina Irwin's curatorship has been anything but po-faced, although this wet activity is often thought rather dry. Exhibited alongside the pictures are the watercolour boxes of Hogarth and Queen Victoria. By the look on the tiny porcelain saucers in the latter's, some servant failed to clean up after the royal effort.

● Brush to paper: Three centuries of British watercolours *is at the Aberdeen Art Gallery, School Hill, Aberdeen (0224 646333) until April 13, then at the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff, and the Bankside Gallery, London SE1.*

RECORDS: EASTER MUSIC

Passions for speed and tradition

Bach: St John Passion
Taverner Consort and Players/Parrott. EMI CDS 7 54083 2 (two CDs)
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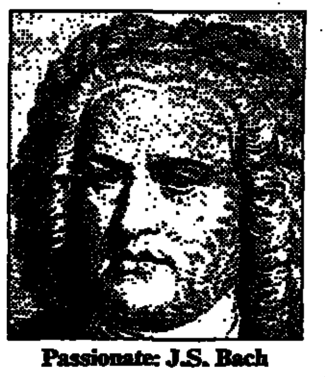
THE options could hardly be more extreme. The **St John Passion**, in any event the slimmer of Bach's two Good Friday re-enactments, has a distinctly slim performance under Andrew Parrott, who uses a total complement of just 30 and achieves fast, sometimes even daring, speeds. For the **St Matthew Passion**, Enoch zu Guttenberg's choir, the Chorgemeinschaft Neubeuern, is many times larger than Parrott's nine, to judge from the photograph in the accompanying booklet, and the Bach-Collegium of Munich gives him a plush string sound to match, the whole performance moving at much statelier tempos.

This is, in other words, what we used to call a "traditional" performance, though the currently most vital tradition is represented much more by Parrott's style of music making, and I am not sure why anyone should want the new Eurodisc version in preference or addition to, say, the Karajan or Jochum recordings. It is not as if the soloists were particularly outstanding. Claes H. Ahnsjö has a ringing but reedy authority as the Evangelist; Hermann Prey is sadly unsteady in the words of Christ; and neither Margaret Marshall nor Jard van Nes is caught at her best in this live (and coughy) recording from last April.

Much more is happening in the Parrott account of the St John. The small chorus, in speed and incisiveness, lives up to John Butt's description of their music, in the liner notes, as following, "like quicksilver, every twist and turn of the text". But quick tempos are only part of the story. Just as important to the choral sound is the ingenious solution to the woman-boy dilemma: Parrott uses both — a treble and two sopranos, and a contralto with a boy alto — and by careful choice of voices creates a fused sound which has adult strength together with raw freshness and ardour. Tessa Bonner, who sings the soprano aria "Zerfliesse, mein Herze", has herself an almost sexless, youthful clarity, coming partly from her vibrato-free tone and partly from the immediacy of her response to the words, especially, "Dein Jesus ist tot", which she and we seem to be experiencing for the first time.


Passionate: J.S. Bach

These two vocal qualities, the lack of vibrato and the textual innocence, are shared also by the other soloists. Rogers Covey-Crump as the Evangelist is young and eager; David Thomas, though somewhat clumsy in pitching Jesus's solos and the bass arias, projects an engaging vocal personality; and Caroline Trevor makes an extraordinarily steady, unadorned sound, almost counter-tenor like, in "Es ist vollbracht". There is no great display of personal feeling here, but rather a clear view into how the notes are behaving, so that they convey feeling and sense in a different way. Indeed, throughout the performance the vibrato-less voices do not disguise the harmonic tensions in the piece, and often the effect, even though Bach's later version is followed, is to push the music back towards the century of Monteverdi and Purcell.

Meanwhile the instruments everywhere match the voices in quick responsiveness and unvarnished tone. The continuo playing includes some imaginative dramatic strokes, especially when the veil of the temple is rent in twain, and there is lovely work from flutes and oboes.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

BRIEFING

Tramp's triumph

BACK in 1960 *The Caretaker*, with the 40-year-old Donald Pleasence shabbily triumphant as the tramp Davies, made Harold Pinter's name as a dramatist. It has often been restaged since, but never as formidably as it will be at the Alexandra, Birmingham, on May 14. Pinter directs the production, which is aimed at the West End — and who should be playing Davies but that 71-year-old veteran, Donald Pleasence?

Rising sum

THE BBC Welsh Symphony Orchestra has won the largest sponsorship ever awarded to a BBC orchestra: £270,000 from Hitachi/Maxell for a 16-day tour of Japan in May. The tour will give the orchestra's Tokyo-born conductor, Tadaaki Otaka, the first opportunity to perform with his orchestra in front of his home audience since he took over the Welsh baton three years ago.

Stepping up

AN ARGENTINE invasion of London is on its way. *Tango Argentino* is a review with 15 dancers, four singers and 12 musicians based entirely on the tango. Its season at the Aldwych, which opens on May 17, is officially set for four and a half weeks only. But when the company went to New York for a five-week season, it ended up staying for a year.

Last chance...

SOME thought it a pity that David Hare should see the Church of England almost entirely as a secular institution, subject to the same power struggles as the Labour party or the BBC. But the public enjoyed *Racing Demon* enough for it to transfer from the Cottesloe to the Olivier (071-928 2252). Richard Eyre's expert production closes today with an afternoon and evening performance after a 13-month run.

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THEATRE

More to life than sportin'

Damon Evans, Sportin' Life in Glyndebourne's *Porgy and Bess* and now Joe in *Carmen Jones*, talks to Clive Davis

There are places where the American tenor Damon Evans is recognised in the streets. It happens frequently in his native United States, but strangers have also stopped him as far afield as Italy and the Soviet Union.

Few singers of the non-pop or non-Pavarotti variety could make a similar claim. But then, few have enjoyed a previous existence as an actor in a highly successful American television comedy series. Damon Evans can claim that distinction. The show was *The Jeffersons*, a precursor to *The Cosby Show*. Evans made his last appearance in the programme 12 years ago, yet people still remember him by his character's name: Lionel.

Britain was one of the few countries that remained immune to *Jeffersons* mania. His reputation here rests on his achievements in classical music, and in particular on his dazzling performance as Sportin' Life in the Trevor Nunn/Simon Rattle production of Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* at Glyndebourne in 1986. Now he takes on a new challenge: a West End production of *Carmen Jones*, in which he shares the lead role of Joe with Michael Austin.

Set in the Deep South, Oscar Hammerstein's reworking of Bizet's opera has taken almost half a century to reach the West End. The first Broadway production opened in 1943, received ecstatic reviews, and ran for 503 performances. Eleven years later, Otto Preminger released his brash film version, with Dorothy Dandridge in the title role and Harry Belafonte as the updated Don José.

Thanks to screenings on television, the film has become the authorised version, almost by default. Damon Evans is among those who have never seen a stage production. As a child in Baltimore he saw the film time and again. "I grew up on it. My mother took me, my father took me. Last summer, when I knew I was being considered for Joe, I decided to see it again. I was sceptical when I went in; I didn't think it would work. But it did. It wasn't a period piece."

Black intellectuals have had harsh words for the Preminger film. James Baldwin, for one, mauled it in *Commentary*. "The fact that one is watching a Negro cast interpreting *Carmen* is used to justify their remarkable vacuity, their complete improbability, their total divorce from anything suggestive of the realities of Negro life."

Evans is confident that stereotypes will be avoided at the Old Vic. One joke circulating among the cast, he says, is that the director, Simon Callow, knows more about black history than the rest of them put together. He also stresses that Hammerstein's original story-line gave a broader picture of black life: "There's a middle-class, country-club element which is totally missing in the movie. The characters are also much more fleshed out. In the film I was watching Joe as a victim, but in the play you're much more aware of the choices that he has made. It's more interesting that way."

One joke among the cast is that the director, Simon Callow, knows more about black history than the rest of them put together

Evans had to confront similar misgivings over Glyndebourne. Anxious not to be confined to the "pork 'n' beans" syndrome of ghettoised roles, he had mixed feelings about joining Trevor Nunn's cast. Once rehearsals began his fears dissolved: "Trevor did something I'd always prayed for a director to do: he went back to the source material — the novel by DuBose Heyward — and he took a purely humanistic approach. He treated the characters as human beings."

The controversy over the Broadway production of *Miss Saigon* is another subject that rouses Evans's passions. He believes that the furore over the casting of Jonathan Pryce was misreported on both sides of the Atlantic. "I feel divided about the whole thing. As a black performer, I don't want anyone to tell me I can't play a part on the grounds of my race. Jonathan Pryce has as much right to play an Asian as I do: in fact I recently played Goro in *Madam Butterfly* in Canada. But there is so much history behind this. The minority members of Equity had been unhappy for some time that they hadn't been properly assimiliated into American casting policies. The press never really reported on the background. They made it sound like it was just a case of Americans versus Brits."

For Evans, typecasting is a particular concern, partly for the obvious reason of his colour, partly because he has had to overcome a bias against classical performers who have not come up through the conventional channels. Although he showed an early interest in opera — he formed his own neighbourhood company at the age of 17 — he was working on Broadway by the time he was 19. But after several years of steady work in musicals, he found the parts began to dry up — "People kept telling me I sang *too* well" — and he enrolled at music school.

At the end of his first year, along came an offer from CBS, the network which made *The Jeffersons*. Evans took it, not knowing that he would stay with the show for three seasons. An even bigger role followed when he played the author Alex Hailey in *Roots: The Next Generation*. He had inadvertently become a Hollywood actor. Then he decided that his ambitions lay elsewhere. He returned to New York and set about building a career as a tenor.

Damon Evans: from television comedy player to operatic principal and musical star

"I didn't work for about three years," he recalls. "I was in no condition to. Luckily, I had residuals coming in." Winning a place to study opera at the Juilliard in 1984 should have boosted his confidence, but it seemed to have the opposite effect. The message, he feels, was that a former television actor had no chance of success in opera. At this point he heard about auditions for Sportin' Life at Glyndebourne.

He returned to this country in 1989, representing the United States at the "WNO/BBC Singer of the World" competition in Cardiff. He still regards Britain as the country where he was first taken seriously as an artist. ("In America they only remember the sitcom. It can be a very snobbish business. Every time I walk through the airport here, I want to hug the people when they stamp my work permit.")

One of his main objectives now is to ditch Sportin' Life before he becomes too closely identified with him. His last scheduled performance in the role is at Covent Garden in the 1992/93 season. He has even turned down an offer of the part from the New York Met.

"People forget that I made my debut here with the LSO. They think it wasat Glyndebourne, in a role that is normally associated with song and dance men. I think there are roles in the traditional repertoire that black artists should be playing. For instance, I would like to play Peter Grimes. It wouldn't change the story, but it would add a whole new dimension."

● Carmen Jones *previews at the Old Vic in Waterloo Road, London SE1 (071-928 7616) from tomorrow and opens on April 8.*

RADIO

Campaign tales and chitchatting

In Claude Chabrol's film masterpiece, *Que La Bête Meure*, the young prospective parricide is told by his Greek tutor that every death in Homer is particularised, that every character gets his own special dispatch. This was the chief Homeric element that Christopher Logue celebrated in his *War Music* of ten years ago, a free account of Books 16 to 19 of the *Iliad*, in which close-ups of ultraviolence created a zesty, flicker-book effect.

I have not seen the text of his latest commission, Kings (Radio 3, Sunday) but anybody could have told him in advance that in taking on Books 1 and 2 he would find himself strapped for gore. To be sure, the narrative features a public caning, but true fans of radio nasties will largely have experienced the frustration of the Achaean troops sitting in their tedious tents while the big shots argued: Agamemnon being kingly and Achilles acting like a complete drama-queen.

Logue's method, famously, is to absorb Chapman, Pope and company and then produce his own, sardonically flavoured version of events in which anachronisms play the role of court jester. All wars are the same in essence, and references to Gallipoli and Hiroshima seemed not out of place; but an intrusive parenthesis concerning the poet and his friend on a balcony in Skopje might well have landed him in the wrong corner of *Private Eye*.

The rest of the work was the mixture as before, with deliberately cinematic shifts of focus, extravagantly camp metaphors and enough "sea-dark wine" to launch a fleet. And once again the admirable Alan Howard did all the voices, from Thetis to Stentor, like a one-man rep company.

Listeners equipped with headphones will have noticed that the dream sent by Zeus to persuade Agamemnon to renew the assault on Troy began its mischief in the sleeper's right ear, migrated to the left and then returned, a wandering spirit indeed. The whole production was like this: detailed, exact and apposite.

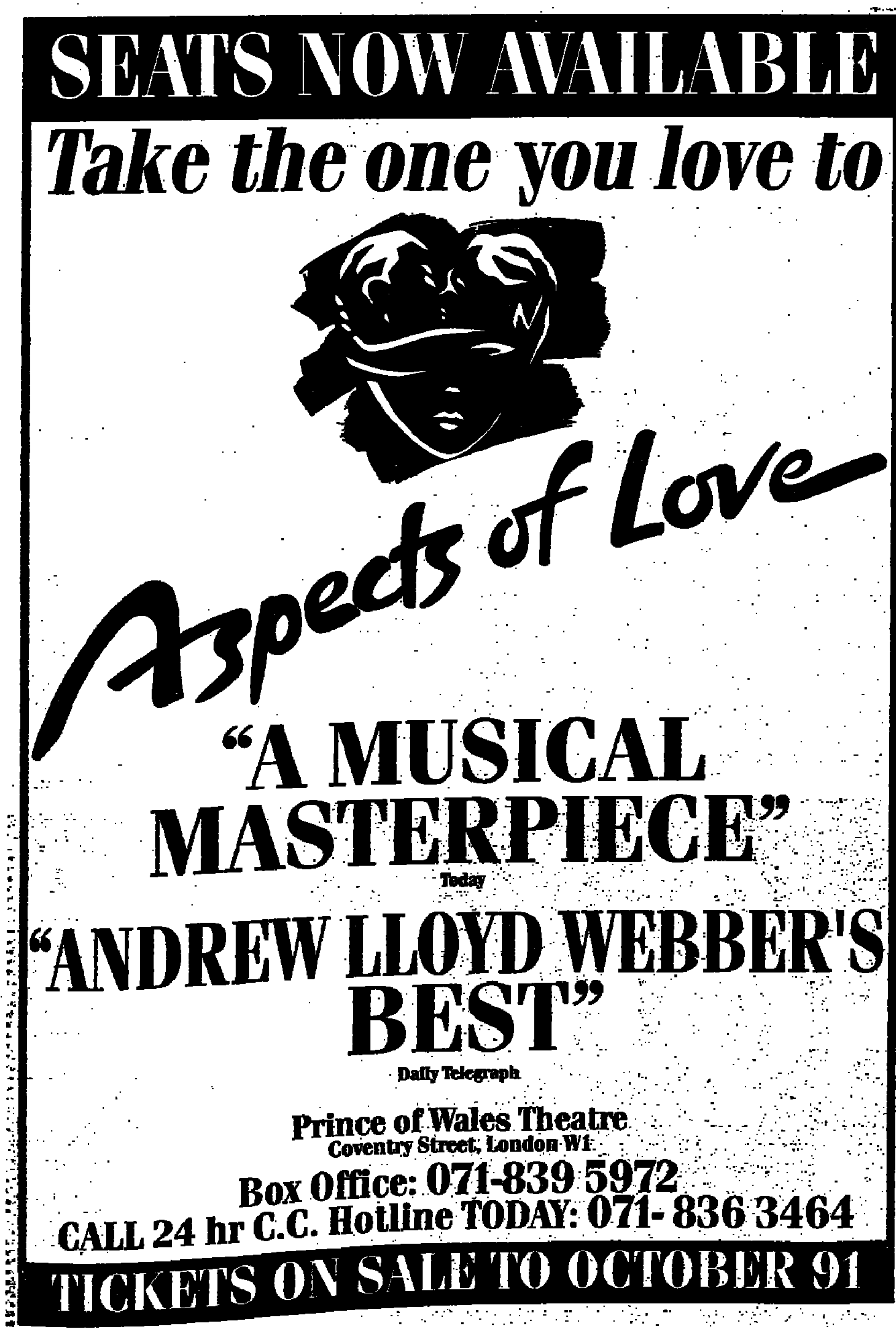
Acute ear-power was not necessary to detect, in Start The Week (Radio 4, Monday), the rustling of paper, although one could not tell whether this derived from handwritten notes or a cast list of Sidney Lumet's last film, or even the hardback edition of Thomas Keneally's new novel. Melvyn Bragg, sounding as though he had swallowed an extra-soporific dose of adenoid medicine, fumbled his way through a conversation that began as a consideration of the modern rise of fundamentalism, but swiftly deteriorated into book — and film — chat.

Keneally demonstrated his acquaintance with the techniques of hijacking by attempting to hijack the programme itself. Lumet was better value by far, speaking of a society (the now dis-United States) in which primary schools have installed metal-detectors to weed out the handguns before they get to the classrooms. Even the Jewish humanitarianism on which he was weaned has fallen victim to barking religious mania. "The melting pot has not melted," he observed. Tribalism, intolerance, interracial violence: it is not a world away from Homer.

Warfare by other means continued in The Monday Play (Radio 4, yesterday). *The Rabbit Hunt* was Mike Walker's beguiling account of an adolescent Irish patriot's progressive disillusionment, in the Thirties, with the nature of nationalism and the eternal argument between means and ends. "It all depends on who has the right words," declared a representative of the adult world. "The lads" were due back from the civil war in Spain, and the sky was brimming with skylarks, and Irish heads were full of Cagney and Edward G. Robinson. Elizabeth Parkinson's "radiophonic" music was the best since *Arthur — the King*. This was a joint production between RTE and the BBC; perhaps things *are* looking up.

MARTIN CROPPER

Christopher Logue: gore-free



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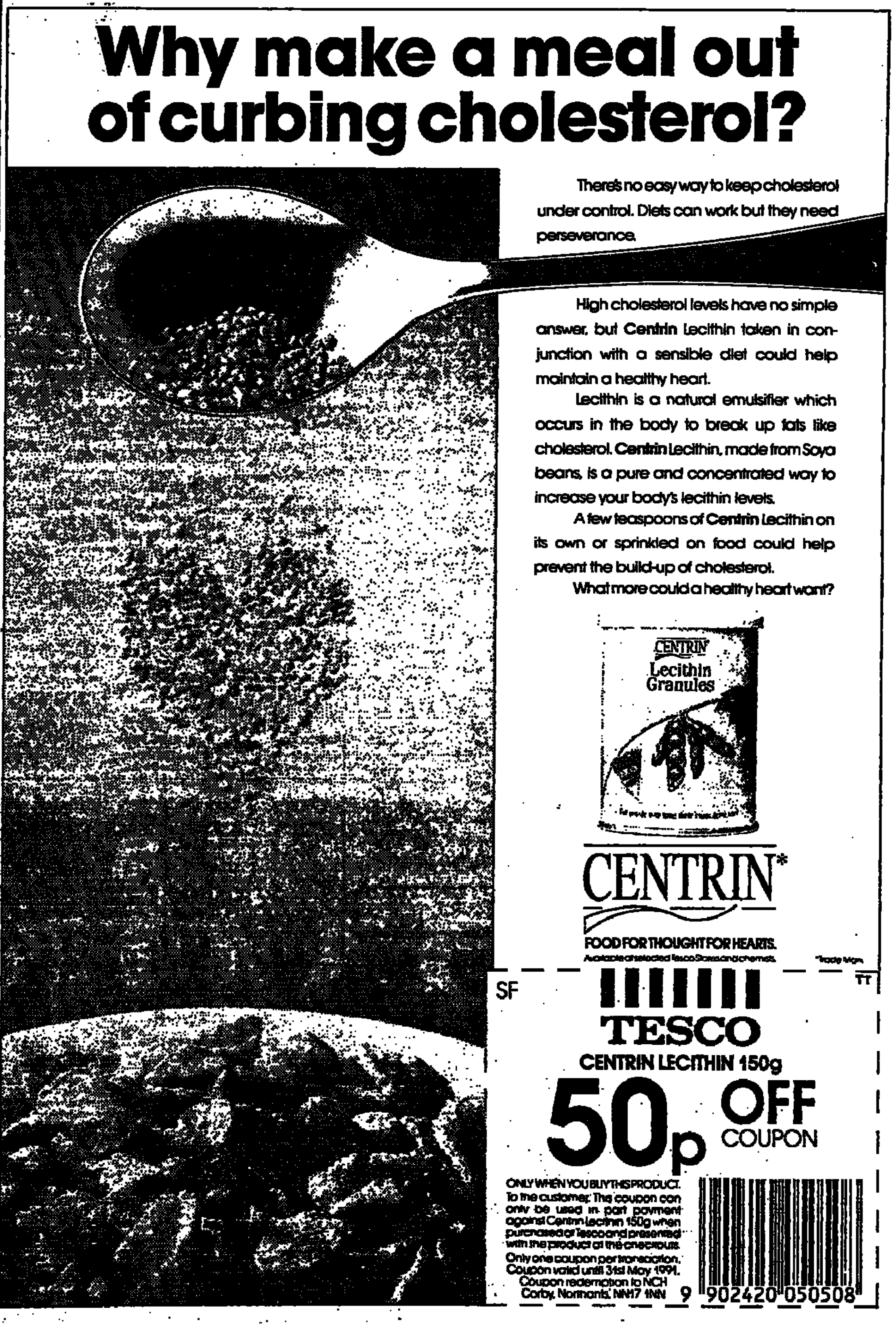

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When simplicity falls short

ROCK

Tanita Tikaram
Hammersmith Odeon

SHE Tikaram has not, apparently, busked on the beaches of Los Angeles, slept rough in Greenwich Village, dabbled in German art movies or grown up on the mean streets of Belfast. Tanita Tikaram comes from a happy family that lives in Basingstoke and she has resolutely resisted the temptation to create a romantic mythology out of her background or to emphasise any unusual or anti-social quirks in her behaviour.

In a music business which is overloaded with artifice and hype, such straightforwardness is to be applauded.

Unfortunately, her singular lack of mystique may be part of the reason why she does not prompt the reverential response that singer-songwriters are traditionally supposed to inspire. At Hammersmith the lighting was subdued, the music quiet and the reception polite. There was a significant number of empty seats, a reflection of the disappointing sales so far of her third album, *Everybody's Angel*, which was released last month.

Her band was staffed with top-flight session players who executed her music with sublime discretion. The lead guitarist, Mark Creswell, turned his hand to anything from the bluesy slide motif of "Mud in Any Water" to the sparkly high-life phrases of a rearranged "World Outside Your Window". Drummer Nick France saw off the coda of "Swear by Me" with tumbling clusters of his best jazz-fusion licks.

Naturally, the focus of attention was Tikaram's haunting contralto, which she deployed with unfailing grace, especially on the slower material such as "Little Sister Leaving Town" and the balmy "Cathedral Song".

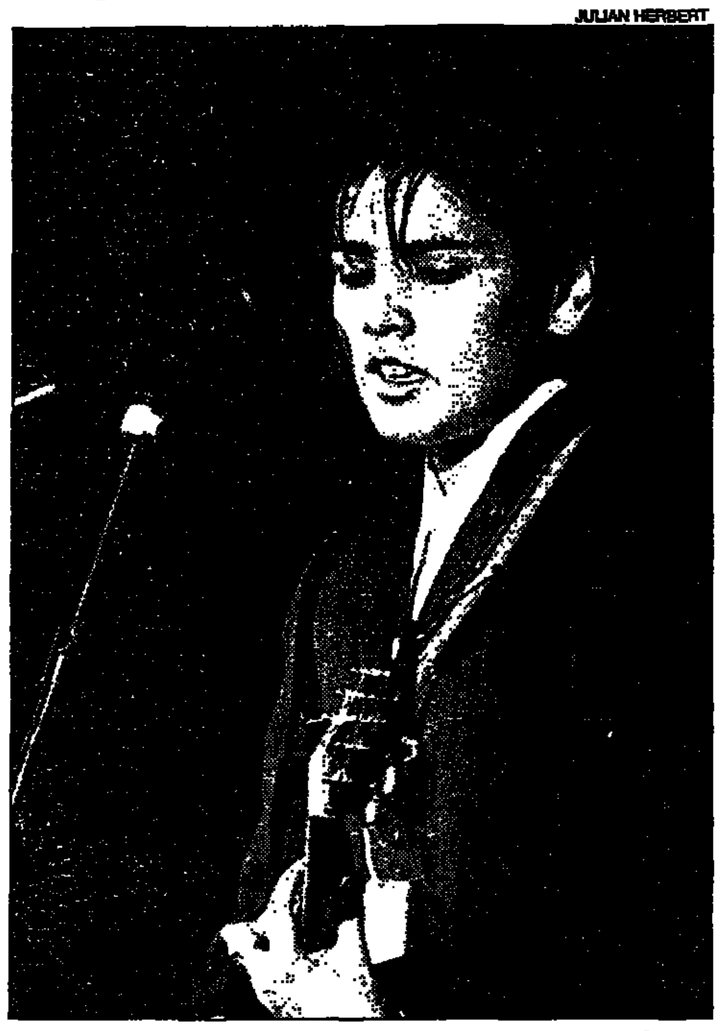
The rich, sensual quality of her singing was, however, at odds with her disconcertingly slight stage presence. Dressed in a mannish brown suit, her hair cropped and greased into a neo-Elvis quiff, she wiggled her legs in an uncomfortable approximation of a genie coming out of its bottle.

Between numbers she babbled nervously as she informed us that "Sunface" was "a song all about the sun", Van Morrison's "Domino" was "a song about dominoes" and that "Thursday's Child" was "a song about somebody born on a Thursday".

Close your eyes, and you could easily forget that Tikaram is only 20 years old and still has time to acquire the emotional gravitas which her music demands. While this was a pleasing and restful canter through her best material, somewhere along the line she will need to acquire the stagecraft necessary to turn a performance into a show.

DAVID SINCLAIR

JULIAN HERBERT



Nice and nervous: Tanita Tikaram on stage on Sunday night

JAZZ

Jimmy Giuffre, Sidsel Endresen
Camden Festival

THIRTY years have gone by since the reeds player Jimmy Giuffre formed his trio with Paul Bley and Steve Swallow. At that time, when the Free Jazz movement was beginning to gather momentum, the musicians were caught in the crossfire over the merits or otherwise of the avant-garde.

With its allusions to atonalism, the trio's output appeared suspect to radicals and conservatives alike. The rebels regarded Giuffre as too cerebral; the old guard could not understand why he had turned his back on the success of "The Train and the River", the shuffling theme made famous by the film *Jazz on a Summer's Day*.

During its brief life the trio never enjoyed much in the way of popular appeal. But enough of the faithful turned out to cause severe congestion at the Jazz Café. The size of the audience, in fact, undermined the intimacy of the performance.

This was chamber jazz at its most brittle and introspective: the rattling of glasses and the constant to and fro of spectators looking for a better vantage point were no help in keeping concentration.

On their new release, *The Life of a Trio*, the players embarked on tunes spontaneously, with no rehearsals or re-takes. The same sense of experimentation underpinned their live set, as Giuffre edged his way through "All the Things You Are" and "I Can't Get Started". The occasional false start was outweighed by passages of sustained concentration.

Normally the most reserved of pianists, Bley opened with a garrulous blues accompaniment before settling into his more familiar skeletal patterns. Giuffre, as ever, was more interested in pure tone than declamatory set-pieces. Radio 3 was recording the event — closely miked, one hopes. Given the background noise, the broadcast might be the best way of judging the merits of the trio.

Audience noise caused more problems earlier in the Festival when the Norwegian singer Sidsel Endresen gave a recital of typically lugubrious ECM-label compositions. Enthusiastically reviewed in some quarters, her album *So I Write* could be described as Joni Mitchell meets Jan Garbarek.

Though her voice was short of colour, Endresen had the help of some adept musicians, including the British pianist Django Bates. Their extended solos were the most persuasive aspect of the performance, if only because they could be heard above the chitchat.

CLIVE DAVIS

THEATRE

Approaching Zanzibar
Man-in-the-Moon

TINA Howe's *Art of Dining* closes with frenzied gourmets gorging crepes Suzettes, her *Museum* with art-buffs ecstatically demolishing an avant-garde sculpture, her *Painting Churches* with an aged couple rapturously waltzing round a portrait of themselves; but none of Howe's plays has a more eccentrically upbeat ending than *Approaching Zanzibar*. A nine-year-old girl leaps up and down with her great-aunt on what is supposedly the old lady's deathbed, the two of them crying "paradise, paradise!"

With *Painting Churches* starting a pre-London run in Southampton last Tuesday, and *Zanzibar* opening on King's Road at the weekend, "Tina who?" should no longer be the automatic reaction on this side of the Atlantic to the name Tina Howe. Whether she can build herself a reputation as formidable as the one she enjoys in the United States is another matter. She sees plays as "essentially internal landscapes", and is more interested in evoking states of feeling than in conflict and plot. Again, her attempts to celebrate the dionysiac, death-defying aspects of the human spirit can become a bit sentimental.

Still, at least she takes risks, and nowhere more so than in *Zanzibar*, a road play that attempts to communicate that theatrically tricky thing, a sense of wonder. Walter Blossom is a blocked composer. His wife Charlotte also feels dried up, in her case by the impending menopause. Their car-trip across America with children and tent confronts them with mountains, streams, a lake, skies full of stars, and even a deaf-mute girl with psychic gifts. Whether he goes off to write symphonies, and she to conceive a baby, we never learn; but both are clearly refreshed by the marvels they feel they have met.

Kirstie Gulick's cast, with Michael McGrath and Sharon Hogan capably in control, conjure what magic they can out of a small stage empty of everything except a white stepladder and one or two other simple props. That asks a lot not only of the spectators' imaginations but of Howe's dialogue; and deft and subtle though this can be, it finally fails to build what is needed, an atmosphere so charged that we feel the way Walter and Charlotte do when they watch their daughter shouting "paradise" with the aunt they have driven so far to visit. In Howe's plays, cancer patients may frisk like lambs just hours before they die. In life, they would find such acrobatics harder.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

THEATRE

Here Come the Clowns
King's Head, Islington

THE American dramatist Philip Barry is best known for *The Philadelphia Story*, a sophisticated comedy set among the idle rich of the Philadelphia strip, made into a memorable film starring Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant and Spencer Tracy. He turned out several other light comedies in the Thirties and Forties with notable success, becoming the second most performed American playwright after O'Neill, but felt he was cut out for deeper things. Here is the result, an oddity if ever there was one, a strange meeting between Damon Runyon and Pirandello, in turn embarrassingly awful and theatrical arresting.

We find ourselves in Ma Speedy's Cafe des Artistes, nicely recreated in David Stevenson's design as a speakeasy doubling as a variety theatre, with an Inglenook stage. What follows is an encounter group for showbiz folk, entertainers acting out their real life dramas for each other's entertainment. Not, unfortunately, for ours: we are engaged here on a quest for truth, God (Barry was a Catholic) and, yes, the meaning of life.

Former chief stagehand Dan Clancy, on whom every imaginable catastrophe (loss of daughter, brother, eye, job) has befallen, has come back in search of his errant wife. Richard Linford looks suitably craggy and battered (he has a face, says someone, like the coast of Kerry), but the part is pure Irish sentimentality.

Much more promising is that of his wife Nora: Judi Bowker suggests both the sweetness he sees and the hardness underneath. There is a ventriloquist (Ian Saville) who uses his dummy to vent the truth about his wife's homosexuality. And a dwarf: Jon Key manages to free the part of the Major from the enveloping saccharine and to inject a note of genuine pathos.

Acerbic commentary is provided by Garrick Hogan's authentic, seedily handsome journalist. As Professor Max Pabst, master of ceremonies and master of illusion (you guessed, nothing is what it seems), Don Fellows embodies the right hollow, German jollity.

Every now and then Barry forgets he is writing deep allegory and lets slip a gem of a one-liner. "I left a good plate of eggs for this," snaps Nora Clancy. "The problem of good and evil is a difficult one," intones the Prof. She should not have bothered. Qualified thanks to the director, David Evans Rees, for resurrecting one of the most scrambled works in the dramatic canon.

HARRY EYRES

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country.

NEW RELEASES

AMERICAN FRIENDS (PG): Nineteenth-century romance between an Oxford don (Michael Palin) and a young American (Trini Alvarado). Slender, charming, tasteful; director, Tristram Powell.
Odeon Haymarket (071-839 7697).

◆ JETSONS: THE MOVIE (U): Sit-com humour in a futuristic setting; a muddled attempt to bring the Sixties cartoon series before today's young audiences. Directors, William Hanna and Joe Barbera.
Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

JU DOU (15): Lust and revenge in a Chinese dye factory. Extraordinary, compelling drama from Zhang Yimou, director of *Red Sorghum*.
ICA Cinema (071-930 3647).

LIFE IS SWEET (15): Ups and downs of a North London family, depicted by master caricaturist Mike Leigh. Droll, farcical, at times oddly moving, with Alison Steadman.
Gate (071-727 4043) Lumière (071-836 0691).

◆ LOOK WHO'S TALKING TOO (12): Kirstie Alley and John Travolta hit potty-training troubles. Threadbare sequel to the uncouth comedy hit; director, Amy Heckerling.
Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) West End (071-930 5252/7615) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

CURRENT

AVALON (U): Engaging personal saga about immigrant experience and post-war breakup of family life, by *Rain Man* director Barry Levinson. Fine performances by Armin Mueller-Stahl, Joan Plowright.
Curzon Phoenix (071-240 9661) Screen on the Hill (071-435 3366).

◆ AWAKENINGS (12): Tender, heart-tugging tale of neurologist Robin Williams stirring the life force in Robert De Niro and other patients stricken with paralysis.
Odeon Leicester Square (071-930 6111).

C'EST LA VIE (12): Evocative autobiographical recollection by French director Diane Kurys: a childhood seaside holiday soured by marital breakup.
Barbican (071-638 8891) Premiere (071-439 4470).

CYRANO DE BERGERAC (U): Oscar nominee Gérard Depardieu masterful as the lovelorn, long-nosed Cyrano; director Jean-Paul Rappeneau transforms Rostand's play into magnificent, swashbuckling cinema.
Chelsea Cinema (071-351 3742) Cannon Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 8861) Premiere (071-439 4470) Renoir (071-837 8402) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ DANCES WITH WOLVES (12): Kevin Costner as the Civil War lieutenant sucked into *the Sioux's way of life. Over-reverent*, though Costner mounts his directorial debut with aplomb. Nominated for 12 Oscars.
Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Shaftesbury Avenue (071-836 8861) Odeon Marble Arch (071-723 2011) Screen on the Green (071-226 3520) Warner (071-439 0791).

FEAR (18): Demure Ally Sheedy as the *lady in peril* — a psychic with a gift for seeing brutal murders. Fair psychological chiller from writer-director Rockne O'Bannon.
Cannons: Oxford Street (071-636 0310) Panton Street (071-930 0631).

◆ THE GODFATHER PART III (15): Brooding finale to Francis Ford Coppola's Mafia saga, *handsomely staged but lacking resonance. Al Pacino, Andy Garcia*, Talia Shire.
Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Empire (071-497 9999) Notting Hill Coronet (071-727 6705) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ GREEN CARD (12): Marriage of convenience becomes unbearable when slobbish Gérard Depardieu moves in with uptight Andie MacDowell. Likeable New York romantic comedy, director, Peter Weir.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Plaza (071-497 9999) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ THE GRIFTERS (18): Stephen Frears' disjointed version of Jim Thompson's con-artist thriller. John Cusack, Anjelica Huston, Annette Bening, stranded in a glossy limbo.
Camden Plaza (071-485 2443) Cannons: Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Haymarket (071-839 1527) Warner (071-439 0791).

◆ MILLER'S CROSSING (18): Prohibition gang warfare from the brothers Coen: brooding, labyrinthine, over-laden with words and smart artifice. Gabriel Byrne, Albert Finney.
Camden Parkway (071-267 7034) Cannon Haymarket (071-839 1527).

◆ MR AND MRS BRIDGE (PG): Eloquent portrait of an upper middle-class American marriage, from Evan S. Connell's novels. Joanne Woodward, Paul Newman; director, James Ivory.
Curzon Mayfair (071-465 8865).

THE NASTY GIRL (PG): Provocative, funny assault on Germany's Nazi past, with Lena Stolze as the girl uncovering her home town's shady history.
Cannon Piccadilly (071-437 3561) Minema (071-235 4225) Screen on Baker Street (071-935 2772).

◆ PACIFIC HEIGHTS (15): Evil tenant Michael Keaton makes life hell for landlords Matthew Modine and Melanie Griffith. Strenuous, implausible thriller; director, John Schlesinger.
Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Haymarket (071-839 1527) Odeon Mezzanine (071-930 6111) Swiss Cottage (071-722 5905) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

◆ POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE (15): Caustic Tinseltown comedy, with a few tears, from Carrie Fisher's novel. Meryl Streep as the drug-abused actress; Shirley MacLaine as her mother. Director, Mike Nichols.
Cannons: Chelsea (071-352 5096) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Odeons: Kensington (071-602 6644/5) Mezzanine (071-930 6111).

◆ THE RUSSIA HOUSE (12): Serpentine spy games with Sean Connery and Michelle Pfeiffer. Muted thriller from John Le Carré's novel, director, Fred Schepisi.
Barbican (071-638 8891) Cannons: Baker Street (071-935 9772) Fulham Road (071-370 2636) Tottenham Court Road (071-636 6148) Plaza (071-497 9999) Whiteleys (071-792 3303/3324).

THE SHELTERING SKY (18): A chilling novel (by Paul Bowles) filmed with a warming visual sweep by Bernardo Bertolucci. With John Malkovich and Debra Winger.
Plaza (071-497 9999).

TILAI (PG): Formidably beautiful African tale of love versus village traditions from Idrissa Ouedraogo, director of *Yaaba*.
Metro (071-437 0757) Renoir (071-837 8402).

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current theatre in London

■ House full, returns only
☒ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

☐ CHILDREN OF EDEN: Genial musical jinks round Genesis, supplied by John Caird and Stephen Schwartz.
Prince Edward, Old Compton Street, W1 (071-734 8951). Underground: Leicester Square. Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs, Sat, 2.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 50mins.

☒ THE CLOSING NUMBER: Weird, wordless piece by Yugoslavian Mladen Materic for Shared Experience, with knife-throwing and red jelly.
Hampstead Theatre, Avenue Road, NW3 (071-722 9301). Underground: Swiss Cottage. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. Running time: 1hr 35mins. Closes April 6.

☐ DANCING AT LUGHNASA: Brian Friel's haunting memory-play sets catholic prudery up against pagan ecstasy: Alec McCowen and Dublin's Abbey Theatre.
Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1044). Underground: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hrs 30mins.

☐ FEASTING ON AIR: "The Little Mermaid" falls as a parable of a girl's journey through puberty, though the two crabby caryatids she meets are good company.
Lyric Studio, King Street, W6 (081-741 2311). Underground: Hammersmith. Today, 1.30pm, tomorrow, 1.30pm and 8pm, Thurs, Sat, 4.30pm and 8pm. Running time: 1hr. Closes Saturday.

■ FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE: Marvellous jazzy revue packed with Louis Jordan numbers. An evening of joy.
Lyric, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (071-437 3686). Underground: Piccadilly. Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 6pm and 8.45pm. Running time: 1hr 45mins.

☒ THE HOMECOMING: Warren Mitchell and others seducing and seduced by Cherie Lunghi in Peter Hall's Pinter revival.
Comedy, Panton Street, W1 (071-867 1045). Underground: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed, 3pm, Sat, 5pm. Running time: 2hrs 15mins.

☐ JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL: Peter O'Toole back playing the drunk-about-town columnist for a limited run.
Shaftesbury, Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (071-379 5399). Underground: Tottenham Court Road. Mon-Fri, 8.30pm, Sat, 5pm and 8.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 10mins. Closes May 25.

☐ THE KING AND I: Susan Hampshire *and Koshiro Matsumoto IX in old-fashioned* show, packed with a wealth of hit songs.
Sadler's Wells, Rosebery Avenue, London EC1 (071-278 8916). Underground: Angel. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mats Wed, Sat, 2.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 50mins. Final week.

☐ LOVE'S LABOURS LOST: Enchanting production by Terry Hands: Ralph Fiennes and *Amanda Root lead the quartet of couples.*
Barbican, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Underground: Barbican/Moorgate/St Paul's. Tonight, 7.30pm, tomorrow, 7pm. Running time: 3hrs.

■ LULU: The charismatic Joanne Whalley Kilmer as Wedekind's voracious sex goddess littering the salons of Europe with corpses.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (071-359 *4404). Underground: Highbury & Islington. Mon-*Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 3.30pm. Running time: 3hrs. Closes April 20.

☐ MEETINGS: Revival of Mustapha Matura's 1982 play in praise of old Trinidad. Nicely acted, often hilarious, doesn't quite add up.
Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Street, NW6 (071-328 1000). Underground: Kilburn. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm. *Running time: 2hrs* 10mins. Closes Saturday.

☐ OEDIPUS THE KING: Tara Arts "Indianised" version, ingenious and sprightly. Excellent music.
Tara Arts Centre, 356 Garratt Lane, SW18 (081-871 1458). British Rail: Earlsfield. Tonight-Thurs, 7.30pm. Running time: 80mins.

☐ *THE REHEARSAL: Ian McDiarmid's* stylish production (costumes by Jasper Conran) of Anouilh's seduction play.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-379 6107). *Underground: Leicester Square.* Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8pm, mats Tues, 3pm, Sat, 4pm. Running time: 2hrs 30mins.

■ SILLY COW: Ben Elton's awkward collection of one-liners, centred around Dawn *French as a ghoulish tabloid journo.*
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (071-930 8800). Underground: Piccadilly. Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 5.30pm and 8.45pm. Running time: 2hrs 10mins.

☐ TIMON OF ATHENS: David Suchet suave and sulphurous in a modern-dress production by Trevor Nunn.
Young Vic, 66 The Cut, SE1 (071-928 6363). Underground: Waterloo. Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Thurs, 1.30pm. Running time: 3hrs 15mins. Closes April 20.

☐ TWELFTH NIGHT: Peter Hall's production stresses comedy and motive: with Eric Porter, Dinsdale Landen, David Ryall.
Playhouse, Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (071-839 4401). Underground: Embankment. *Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed, Sat, 3pm.*

☐ TWO SHAKESPEAREAN ACTORS: John Carlisle and Anton Lesser play the deadly rival Thespians in Richard Nelson's drama on an Anglo-American *culture-war*.
The Pit, Barbican Centre, Silk Street, EC2 (071-638 8891). Underground: Barbican/Moorgate/St Paul's. Tonight, 7pm, tomorrow, 7.30pm. Running time: 3hrs.

☐ *VICTORY*: No punches pulled in Howard Barker's demolition of Charles II and his rotten court.
Greenwich Theatre, Croom's Hill, SE10 (081-858 7755). British Rail: Greenwich. *Mon-*Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 30mins. Closes April 13.

☐ THE VISIT: Théâtre de Complicité triumph in Dürrenmatt's black comedy of revenge and corruption.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252). Underground/BR: Waterloo. Tonight, tomorrow, 7.30pm, mat tomorrow, 2.15pm. Running time: 2hrs 55mins.

☒ WHITE CHAMELEON: Christopher Hampton's low-powered exploration of the effects of Suez upon a watchful school boy: himself.
National (Cottesloe) (as above). Tonight, 7.30pm, mat today, 2.30pm. Running time: 2hrs 10mins.

☐ WHAT THE BUTLER SAW: Incest, assault and bisexual junketing preserved in the aspic of Joe Orton's wit.
Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (071-867 1116). Underground: Leicester *Square. Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri, Sat, 6pm and* 8.40pm. Running time: 2hrs.

LONG RUNNERS: ☒ Aspects of Love: Prince of Wales (071-839 5972) . . . ☐ Blood Brothers: Albery (071-867 1115) . . . ☐ Buddy: Victoria Palace (071-834 1317) . . . ■ Cats: New London (071-405 0072) . . . ☒ Me and My Girl: Adelphi (071-836 7611) . . . ■ Les Misérables: Palace (071-434 0909) . . . ■ Miss Saigon: Theatre Royal, Drury Lane (071-836 8108) . . . ☐ The Mousetrap: St Martin's (071-836 1443) . . . ■ The Phantom of the Opera: Her Majesty's (071-839 2244) . . . ☐ Return to the Forbidden Planet: Cambridge (071-379 5299) . . . ☐ Run For Your Wife: Duchess (071-836 8243) . . . ☐ Shirley Valentine: Duke of York's (071-836 5122) . . . ☐ A Slice of Saturday Night: Arts (071-836 2132) . . . ☒ Starlight Express: Apollo Victoria (071-828 8665) . . . ☒ The Woman in Black: Fortune (071-836 2238).

Ticket information on member theatres supplied by Society of West End Theatre

TODAY'S EVENTS

HANSEL AND GRETEL: Aidan Lang's "psychological" version of Humperdinck's opera, with a distilled score for chamber ensemble by David Seaman. Tonight's cast of four is Gail Pearson, Katherine Steffan, Susan Parry and Henry Newman.
Lyric Theatre, King Street, London W6 (081-741 2311), 7.30pm.

LEAR: Monte Jaffe gives his last performance as the raging King in English National Opera's revival of Aribert Reimann's opera, staged by Elke Gramms. Paul Daniel conducts.
Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, London WC2 (071-836 3161), 7.30pm.

GISELLE: Christopher Gable's interpretation for Northern Ballet Theatre has some unusual features in design and action but maintains the traditional style.
Derngate Theatre, 19/21 Guildhall Road, Northampton (0604 24811), 7.30pm.

TOWN AND COUNTRY: Choreographer Matthew Bourne's new two-act show for Adventures in Motion Pictures receives its London premiere, on a bill with *Spitfire*, a spoof quartet for men that features the unlikely combination of classical ballet and underwear advertisements.
The Place, Duke's Road, London WC1 (071-387 0031), 8pm.

ALL AWRY: J.A. Caldas is as a painter unclassifiable and almost wilfully marginal. The new selection includes *portraits* and *landscapes*, all turbulently coloured and forcefully distorted.
Gallery 202, 202 Kensington Park Road, London W11 (071-792 1434), 11am-5.30pm, until March 30.

POP PRINTS. The Pop Art movement was at home with various forms of graphic art, particularly the screen-print. The Tate has more than 100 prints from Britain and America, charting the movement over some 30 years.
Tate Gallery, Millbank, London SW1 (071-821 1313), 10am-6pm, until June 23.

UTE LEMPER: The singer joins the Royal Philharmonic in an all-Weill programme under the baton of Rhonda Kess, comprising *Seven Deadly Sins* and the one-act opera *Johnny Johnson*.
Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (071-928 8800), 7.30pm.

CLARE MARTIN: A vivacious singer whose voice wraps itself around intelligent arrangements of Cole Porter, Thomas Dolby and others.
Dover Street Wine Bar, 8/9 Dover Street, London W1 (071-629 9813), 9pm.

JONATHAN GEE: A more considered soloist than some of his flashier rivals, the young pianist features in the Café's lunchtime series.
Jazz Café, 15a Parkway, London NW1 (071-284 4358), 1pm.

ROD STEWART: A hoarse old trouper who still has the Midas touch when it comes to pitching his records in the charts. His latest hit, "Rhythm of the Heart", precedes his twentieth solo album, *Vagabond Heart*, released this week.
Aberdeen Exhibition Centre, Bridge-of-Don, Aberdeen (0224 824824), 8pm.

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 22

HAWKSHAW
(c) A detective from the very popular play *The Ticket of Leave Man* (1863) by Tom Taylor, also a modern American strip cartoon: "He didn't even whimper when the village hawkshaw snapped the bracelets on his wrist."

SUPER SECOND
(c) A claret from the Médoc or Graves region which is officially in the second category of excellence, having failed to make it into the original premier cru, but is generally recognised as being superior to this: "The team at Ducru-Beaucaillou make a wine fully worthy of the term super second."

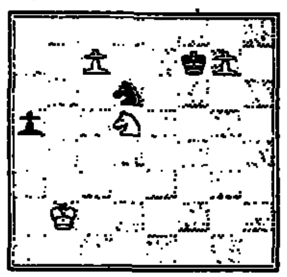
COPROLOGY
(a) Obscenity in literature or art, from the Greek *koprologos* a dung-gatherer or dirty fellow: "All English readers, I trust, will agree that coprology should be left to Frenchmen."

ARIOSE
(b) Songlike, characterised by melody, from the Italian *arioso*: "A style of instrumental music at once light and ariose."

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene, Chess Correspondent

This position is from the game Gallinos — Teoraka, France 1988. White has two dangerous passed pawns. How can he force one through to promotion?



Solution: 1 Ne7! Kxg7 (1 ... Kxe7 2 g8/Q) 2 Nf5+! Kxf5 3 g8/Q

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SOLD OUT UNTIL SEPT 28 1991
40-60 RETURNS SOLD EACH PERF: QUEUE DAILY

GARRICK BO & CC 071 379 6107 cc 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 240 7200/793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 930 6123
THE REHEARSAL
by JEAN ANOUILH
"A VERY HOT TICKET" T Out
Eves 7.45 Sat 4 & 8 Mat Tue 3

HAYMARKET THEATRE ROYAL B.O. 071 930 8800 or 24hr Hotline 071 497 9977 (bkg fee) 071 379 4444 (bkg fee) 071 793 1000 (bkg fee)
"The hottest tickets in town" D.Exp
"Dawn French is the funniest woman in Britain" Evg Std.
DAWN FRENCH IN SILLY COW BY BEN ELTON
MON - THUR EVEN 8.00 pm. FRI and SAT EVEN 8.45 pm MATS FRI and SAT 5.30 pm

LONDON PALLADIUM B/O & CC 071 497 9977 (24hrs), 071-437 7373 071-379 4444, 071-793 1000 (Bkg fee) Grps 071 240 7941
5 OLIVIER NOMINATIONS including
BEST MUSICAL REVIVAL
Kern and Hammerstein's
SHOW BOAT
'Best Song Musical I Have Ever Heard On The West-End Stage' Gdn
Evgs 7.30 Mats Wed Sat 2.30
The Opera North/RSC Production
Directed by Ian Judge
Limited Season Until 18 May

LONDON PALLADIUM BO 071 437 7373/437 2055 cc 24hr 379 4444 (no bkg-fee) 497 9977 24hr (bkg fee) 793 1000 Previews from 1 June Opens 12 June
THE ONLY MUSICAL SEEN & SUNG BY MILLIONS
JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT
by Tim Rice & Andrew Lloyd Webber
Starring JASON DONOVAN

LYRIC, Shafts Ave 071 437 3686 cc 24hrs (no bkg fee) 379 4444
"SONG & DANCE DYNAMITE" Daily Mail
FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE
Nominated For 4 Olivier Awards
"A JOYOUS WALLOPING HIT" Guardian
"The joint never stops jumpin'" Time Out
(Mon-Fri 8.00 Sat at 6.00 & 8.45)
APPLY DAILY FOR RETURNS AND CANCELLATIONS

LYRIC HAMMERSMITH 081 741 2311 (cc no bkg fee 071 836 3464) WELSH NATIONAL OPERA's acclaimed chamber version of Hansel & Gretel by Humperdinck 7.30pm - FINAL WEEK Tickets Still Avail STUDIO 081 741 8701 FEASTING ON AIR by Suzy Gilmour 1.30 pm

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 071 928 2252: Grps 071 620 0741 24 hr cc bkg fee: 071 497 9977
OLIVIER
Today 2.00 & 7.15 RACING DEMON Hare (LAST PERF) Tomor 7.15 THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS Grahame adapted by Bennett (SOLD OUT RETURNS ONLY)
LYTTELTON
Ton't 7.30 Tomor 2.15 & 7.30 THE VISIT Durrenmatt adapted by Valency
COTTESLOE
Today 2.30 & 7.30 WHITE CHAMELEON Hampton Tomor 7.30 INVISIBLE FRIENDS Ayckbourn

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 071 405 0072 CC 404 4079 Grps 405 1567 (All above tel numbers avail from 9am) All Hrs 379 4444 Tkts from W H Smith Travel Branches (Grp bkg) 930 6123
THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER /T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD WINNING MUSICAL
CATS
Eves 7.45 Tue & Sat 3.00 & 7.45
LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION. PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45
NOW BOOKING THRU OCT
SEATS NOW AVAIL

OLD VIC 071 928 7616 or 071 793 0600 (agency no fee) cc (all with bkg fee) 071 793 1000/379 4444/497 9977
For the First Time Ever in London
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II's CELEBRATED MUSICAL
CARMEN JONES
Music by BIZET
Based on his Opera 'CARMEN'
directed by Simon Callow
musical director and principal conductor Henry Lewis
Previews from tomorrow!

PALACE THEATRE 071-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 071-379 4444/497 9977/793 1000 Group Sales 071-930 6123 Grps 071-494 1671
THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL
LES MISERABLES
THE MUSICAL SENSATION
Evgs 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
Latecomers not admitted until the interval
NOW BOOKING THRU SEPT 91
APPLY TO BOX OFFICE DAILY FOR RETURNS/CANCELLATIONS

PICCADILLY 071 867 1118 cc no bkg fee: 867 1111/071 793 1000 071 379 4444 (24hrs)/bkg fee: 071 497 9977 (24hrs) Groups 071-930 6123
Nominated for BEST MUSICAL REVIVAL Olivier Awards 1991
RICHARD O'BRIEN'S 'MAD BAD FUN MUSICAL' D Mir
THE ROCKY HORROR SHOW
Directed by Robin Lefevre
'RAMPANT WITH ACTIVITY' Sunday Express
Mon-Thur 8 Fri & Sat 7 & 9.15 90 mins.BOOKING THRU AUG 31

PHOENIX BO + CC 071 867 1044 cc 071 379 4444 (no fee) 071 793 1000 071 497 9977
4 OLIVIER NOMINATIONS
DANCING AT LUGHNASA
"Poignant, hilarious & spell-binding" Sun Times.
Brian Friel's new masterpiece
"ASTONISHING" D Express.

PLAYHOUSE BO & cc 071-839 4401 cc First Call 24hr 071 379 9463 (no bkg fee)
PETER HALL COMPANY
"A NIGHT TO REMEMBER" Gdn.
TWELFTH NIGHT
Directed by Peter Hall
"A ravishing production" D.Exp
8 WEEKS ONLY
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat at 3
Theatre Restaurant 825 2514
MI GROUP PLAYHOUSE

PRINCE EDWARD 071 734 8951 First Call 24 hr 836 3464 Ticketmaster 379 4444 K Prowse 071-793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 240 7941/930 6123 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30
CHILDREN OF EDEN
"EXPLODES ONTO THE STAGE... A RIOT OF COLOUR, ENERGY AND PURE JOY" Today by JohnCaird StephenSchwartz

PRINCE OF WALES BO 071 839 5972 CC 24hr 7 Day 836 3464 24hr 379 6131 (bkg fee) 793 1000 Grps 930 6123
ASPECTS OF LOVE
"ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S BEST" D.Tel
Lyrics by DON BLACK & CHARLES HART
Directed by TREVOR NUNN
Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.0
NOW BOOKING TO OCTOBER '91

QUEENS 071-494 5040 cc 071 379 4444 (No bkg fee) 071-497 9977/071 793 1000 (bkg fee) Grps 071-930 6123
STEFANIE POWERS JOHN BARROWMAN & NICKY HENSON
MATADOR
A New Musical
Directed by Elijah Moshinsky
Previews from 2nd April Mon-Fri 7.45 Wed Mat at 3 Sat 4.30 & 8

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (071 638 8891 cc Mon - Sun 9am - 8pm)
BARBICAN THEATRE
LOVE'S LABOUR'S LOST
Ton't 7.30, tomor 7.00
THE PIT: TWO SHAKESPEAREAN ACTORS
Ton't 7.00, tomor 7.30
STRATFORD UPON AVON 0789 295623 cc Mon-Sat 9am-8pm)
ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE
HENRY IV PART 1
Ton't, tomor 7.30
THE SWAN: THE VIRTUOSO
Ton't, tomor 7.30
Meal/Ticket/Hotel package 0789 414999. RSC's 24hr box office (bkg fee) 071 497 9977.

SADLER'S WELLS 071 278 8916
SUSAN HAMPSHIRE KOSHIRO MATSUMOTO
in Rodgers & Hammerstein's
THE KING AND I
"MAGIC" D. Mail
"SUMPTUOUS" Times
"ELEGANT" D.Exp
Eves 7.30, Wed & Sat mats 2.30
cc 793 1000/379 4444
LAST 7 PERFORMANCES!

SHAFTESBURY cc 071-379 5399 cc (no bkg fee) 071-379 4444 /497 9977/793 1000 Group Sales 071 930 6123
THE RETURN OF
PETER O'TOOLE
in "THE COMEDY OF THE YEAR" E. Std Drama Award
JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL
by Keith Waterhouse
directed by Ned Sherrin
Eves 8.30pm. Sat 5 & 8.30pm
9 WEEKS ONLY!

ST MARTIN'S 071-836 1443. Special CC No. 379 4444. Evgs 8.0 Tues 2.45. Sat 5.0 and 8.0 39th Year of Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP

STRAND BO & CC 071 240 0300 CC (Bkg Fee) 071 497 9977/071 379 4444/071 793 1000
DAVE ALLEN
"Wicked, incisive" The People
"Outrageously enjoyable" D.Exp
Season extended to 4 May
Monday - Saturday 8pm
No Perf Easter Monday

VAUDEVILLE BO & CC 071-836 9987 CC (no bkg fee) 379 4444/793 1000 CC (bkg fee) 836 2428
KIT & THE WIDOW
Lavishly Mounted!
For 22 Performances only!
Mar 29 at 8.40 only Mon-Thur 8pm Fri & Sat 6pm & 8.40
Mar 29 at 8.40 only

VAUDEVILLE BO & CC 071 836 9987 cc 071 793 1000 (no fee) & 24 hr cc 836 2428 / 379 4444 (bkg fee) Reduced Price Preview April 15 at 8.00 Opens April 16 8 Wks only
MAUREEN LIPMAN in
RE: JOYCE!
Evenings 8.00 Mats Sat 3.00

VICTORIA PALACE 071 834 1317 CC 071-379 4444/240 7200 071-793 1000 (bkg fee) Groups 071 930 6123
BUDDY
The Buddy Holly Story
"BRILLIANT" Sun
"SHEER UNADULTERATED FUN..."
I LOVE THIS SHOW" Sun Exp.
"WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel
Mon-Thurs 8.00 Fri & Sat 5.30 & 8.30. ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRIDAY 5.30 PERF
2nd SENSATIONAL YEAR
NOW BOOKING TO SEPT 28

WHITEHALL 867 1119 cc 867 1111 379 4444 (no bkg fee) 793 1000 (bkg fee)
Previews from Tomorrow
OPENS APRIL 10 AT 7.00
LESLIE GRANTHAM IN
RICK'S BAR CASABLANCA
the original play by Murray Burnett and Joan Alison
Evgs 8.00. Sats 6.00 & 8.45 Mats Thurs 3.00

WYNDHAMS 071 867 1116 CC 071 379 4444/793 1000 (No Fee) & 24hr CC 836 2428 (Bkg Fee)
SHEILA GISH CLIVE FRANCIS
JOSEPH MAHER in
WHAT THE BUTLER SAW
by JOE ORTON
"RIOTOUSLY FUNNY" D Tel
Eves 8.00 Fri & Sats 6.00 & 8.40

CINEMAS

CURZON PHOENIX Phoenix St. off Charing Cross Rd 071 240 9661 Elizabeth Perkins Joan Plowright in Barry Levinson's AVALON (U) Progs at 12.30 (not Sun) 3.05 5.40 8.15 Last Week. From Fri MISTER JOHNSON (12)

CURZON MAYFAIR Curzon St 071 465 8865 Paul Newman Joanne Woodward in Merchant Ivory's MR AND MRS BRIDGE (PG) Progs at 1.00 (not Sun) 3.30 6.00 8.40

CURZON WEST END Shaftesbury Avenue W1 071 439 4805. Richard Harris John Hurt Tom Berenger in THE FIELD (12) Progs at 1.30 (not Sun) 3.50 6.10 8.30

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هكذا من الاصل

BBC 1

6.00 Ceefax

6.30 BBC Breakfast News

9.15 Kilroy. Robert Kilroy-Silk hosts a topical discussion 9.55 Regional news and weather

10.00 News and weather 10.05 Playdays. Children's programme with stories and puppets (r) 10.25 The Family Ness. Cartoon adventure with a family of monsters, resident in Loch Ness, and their two young friends (r) 10.35 The Jetsons. Space age cartoon (r)

11.00 News and weather 11.05 People Today. A look at the lives of people living all over the UK. Including *Health UK* with Martyn Lewis

12.00 News, regional news and weather. 12.05 Rosemary Conley's Diet and Fitness Club. Keeping fit and looking good 12.20 Scene Today. *Judi Spiers and Tim Grundy* introduce live entertainment and conversation from Pebble Mill 12.55 Regional News and weather

1.00 One O'Clock News and weather

1.30 Neighbours. (Ceefax) 1.50 Turnabout. Word game

2.15 Film: Dentist on the Job (1961, b/w). Bob Monkhouse and Ronnie Stevens join a cast of British comedy stalwarts in a half-hearted caper about two dental school graduates who invent their own brand of toothpaste and devise a novel way of promoting it. With Kenneth Connor, Shirley Eaton, Bob Monkhouse and Charles Hawtrey. Directed by C.M. Pennington-Richards

3.50 Bitsa. Caitlin Easterby and Simon Pascoe make models from household junk 4.05 The New Yogi Bear Show (r) 4.15 Jackanory. Bernard Cribbins reads part two of *Best Friends* by Anthony Smith 4.25 Quick Draw McGraw. Cartoon 4.35 The Really Wild Roadshow. Terry Nutkins and Chris Packham visit Chester zoo and look at some animals that do things backwards. (Ceefax)

5.00 Newsround 5.10 Gruey Twoey. Children's comedy series (r)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) Northern Ireland: Sportswide 5.40 Inside Ulster

6.00 Six O'Clock News and weather

6.30 Regional News Magazines. Northern Ireland: Neighbours

7.00 Holiday 91. Victoria Studd tries out the hospitality of family-run hotels in France, while Eamonn Holmes goes caravanning in Northumberland. Plus a report on a Kenyan beach and safari holiday. (Ceefax)

7.30 EastEnders. More intrigue from the residents living within earshot of *Bow Bells*. (Ceefax)

8.00 Dad's Army. Classic comedy with the crinkly comrades-in-arms. Captain Mainwaring's platoon is called upon to provide a guard of honour for the royal train, carrying King George VI through Walmington-on-Sea. Starring Clive Dunn, Arthur Lowe, John Le Mesurier and Ian Lavender (r). (Ceefax)

Ian Botham, David Coleman and Bill Beaumont (8.30pm)

8.30 A Question of Sport. David Coleman hosts the sports quiz show. Team captains *Bill Beaumont and Ian Botham are joined by* top sporting celebrities Steve Bull, Jo Durie, Neale Doughty and Diane Edwards. (Ceefax)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martyn Lewis. (Ceefax) Regional news and weather

9.30 Film: Crime of Innocence (1985). Melodramatic, made-for-television movie based on the true story of Jodi Hayward, thrown into jail by an over-zealous judge after an night's innocent revelry with her friend. The two-day sentence is a nightmarish experience of humiliation and terror, culminating in her rape. The "message" is slightly overwhelmed by the screaming and shouting. With Ralph Waite, Andy Griffith, Shawnee Smith and Tammy Lauren. Directed by Michael Miller. Wales: Week In Week Out 10.00 Film: Crime of Innocence

11.05 Film 91 with Barry Norman. Barry Norman reports from Hollywood on last night's Academy Awards ceremony, meets some of the humble winners and chuckles at the excesses of Tinseltown's glitziest bash. Northern Ireland: 1992 — the European Challenge

11.35 That Week in Jerusalem. Continuing the Holy Week series on the main players in the Easter story, Clive Merrison empathises with Pontius Pilate

11.50 Weather. Northern Ireland: (to 12.20am) Film 91, Wales: Film 91 12.20am News and weather

BBC 2

6.45 Open University: Sexual Identity Ends at 7.10

8.00 News 8.15 Westminster. A round-up of business in both Houses

9.00 Film: The Law West of Tombstone (1938, b/w). The Tonto Kid (Tim Holt) employs every trick up his sleeve to tackle the infamous McQuinn gang in this quintessential comedy western. With Harry *Carey. Directed* by Glenn Tyron

10.10 Film: No Limit (1935, b/w). The Isle of Man TT race turned into a musical with George Formby as a motor mechanic who enters the race under the name of "Speed Demon", with predictably diabolical results. Directed by Monty Banks

11.35 The Honeymooners (b/w). Comedy starring Jackie Gleason

12.00 After Hours with Phil Collins

12.20 The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures. Professor Malcolm Longair, Astronomer Royal of Scotland, with the first of a series of five lectures on the origin and evolution of the universe (r)

1.20 Postman Pat (r) 1.35 Sign Extra. For the hearing impaired (r)

2.00 News and weather followed by Northern Lights: The Girl In Black (r)

2.15 Brazilian Grand Prix. Highlights from Interlagos (r)

3.00 News and weather followed by Westminster Live 3.50 News, regional news and weather

4.00 Call My Bluff. Robert Robinson tests the word power of Tim Rice, Frank Muir, Sheila Steafel and Patricia Hodge (r)

4.30 Plunder. Lord Whitelaw reveals his liking for *Yes Minister*

5.00 News headlines followed by Advice Shop. Hints on avoiding the bailiff 5.30 Gardeners' World (r)

6.00 Film: Campbell's Kingdom (1957). Bruce Campbell (Dirk Bogarde) claims inherited land in the Canadian Rockies, and battles serious illness and unscrupulous developers who want to flood his valley, to protect the underground wealth his property possesses. *With Stanley Baker and Barbara Murray. Directed by* Ralph Thomas

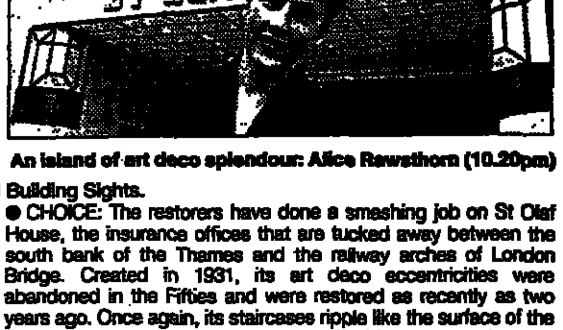
7.45 Assignment: Cuba — No Surrender! Peter Godwin reports from Cuba, the last revolutionary communist outpost that shows no sign of submitting to the free market forces that have opened the Eastern bloc

8.30 Nature: Raiders of the Last Orchid.

● CHOICE: It's a bit of an exaggeration to talk about the *last* orchid, but it makes a goodish Indiana Jones-type title, and it's just *possible that if 100,000 rare slipper orchids continue to be picked by* Thai peasants for a few pence every year and sold in the US for ten times as much, they could become a thing of the past. The same goes for the South African cycad, the primitive cone-bearing plant that is so sought after by collectors that botanical gardens are having to instal round-the-clock electronic alarm systems. One way and another, the metaphorical alarm bells ring out throughout this *Nature* film, none more loudly than when thieves in Arizona's Sonora desert make their midnight swoops on the giant saguaro cactus. Cactus rustlers? Who said there's nothing new under the sun — or moon!

9.00 Twin Peaks. Is keeping company with little Nicky healthy for Dick Tremayne? (Ceefax)

9.50 Taking Liberties: A Convenient Way to Die. David Jessel investigates shipping's flag of convenience system



An island of art deco splendour: Alice Rawsthorn (10.20pm)

10.20 Building Sights.

● CHOICE: The restorers have done a smashing job on St Olaf House, the insurance offices that are tucked away between the south bank of the Thames and the railway arches of London Bridge. Created in 1931, its art deco eccentricities were abandoned in the Fifties and were restored as recently as two years ago. Once again, its staircases ripple like the surface of the Thames, and the mosaics glisten on the lift doors, as they did decades ago. Everything about it — with one exception — thrills Alice Rawsthorn, design correspondent of the *Financial Times*, whose favourite "new" London building this is, whether viewed from the inside or the outside which, she perceptively notes, drops down to the *river like a Venetian palazzo. She is not at all pleased* by the directors' floor. It is by far the grandest level in St Olaf House and that, to Rawsthorn, smacks of elitism

10.30 Newsnight with Jeremy Paxman

11.15 The Late Show. Includes a discussion on the book *American Psycho* 11.55 Weather

12.00 Open University: Child's Play. Ends at 12.30am

ITV

6.00 TV-am

9.25 Lucky Ladders. Word quiz 9.55 Thames News and weather

10.00 Out of This World. American comedy series about a teenage girl whose father is an alien

10.30 This Morning. Family magazine series

12.10 Rod, Jane and Freddy. For the young (r)

12.30 News with Nicholas Owen. Weather 1.10 Thames News and weather

1.20 Home and Away. Drama serial about an Australian couple and their foster children 1.50 A Country Practice

2.20 Take the High Road. Highland soap 2.50 Jumble. Jeff Stevenson hosts the quiz show in which contestants and their celebrity partners must solve cryptic clues and anagrams

3.15 News *headlines* 3.20 Thames News *headlines* 3.25 Families. Drama serial set in the north of England and Australia

3.55 The Wombles. (Oracle) 4.05 The Return of Dogtanian. Swashbuckling action with the heroic hound (r)

Cutting no ice as a private eye: Dursley McLinden (4.30pm)

4.30 Diamond Brothers — South by South East. New children's comedy adventure, with private eye Tim Diamond (Dursley McLinden) 5.00 Cartoon

5.10 Blockbusters. Bob Holness hosts the quiz game for teenagers

5.40 News with Fiona Armstrong. (Oracle) Weather

5.55 Thames Help with holiday advice for the wheelchair-bound

6.00 Home and Away (r)

6.30 Thames News and weather

7.00 Emmerdale. Farming soap set in the Yorkshire Dales (Oracle)

7.30 Thames Report: The Great Depression. Sue Crabtree reports on the region's current levels of anxiety and depression caused by recession, financial worries and London living

8.00 The Bill: Double or Quits. Another incident-packed working day for the clued-up crime fighters working at the inner-city Sun Hill police station. (Oracle)

8.30 Fiddlers Three. Office comedy starring Peter Davidson, Paula Wilcox and Charles Kay. Head office has sent a lackey to investigate staffing levels and the "Fiddlers Three" play every trick in the book to ensure that they remain on the company payroll (Oracle)

9.00 Film: The Naked Lie (1989). Run-of-the-mill thriller that uses the tried and tested "corruption in high places plot" as a vehicle upon which Victoria Principal can demonstrate a knack for uncovering the perpetrators involved. She stars as Joanne, a successful lawyer who is acting as the prosecuting attorney in a case that involves the sordid murder of a prostitute. The woman's pimp is being charged with the murder, but Joanne's extensive investigations begin to unravel a web of blackmail and intrigue involving a string of wealthy and prominent men, and ultimately pointing the finger in the direction of her own lover, a prominent judge. A a result, her case, her career and her romance all hinge upon a tortuous decision that only she can make. With James *Farentino and Glenn Withrow. Directed by Richard A. Colla* Continues after the News.

10.00 News at Ten with Julia Somerville and Trevor McDonald. (Oracle) Weather 10.30 Thames News and weather

10.40 Film: The Naked Lie continued.

11.30 Prisoner: Cell Block H. Drama behind bars from Down Under

12.30am This Week — 35 Years on the Front Line: The Agony of Lebanon. Jonathan Dimbleby presents a film that looks back at the horrific events of 1976, when the ruinous civil war in Lebanon was at its height (r)

1.00 Video View presented by Mariella Frostrup

1.30 How Was It For You? Henry Kelly hosts a discussion about the reasons why some men marry younger women and some women marry younger men. With comment from Jill Gascoine and Ed Stewart

2.00 Film: Rio Conchos (1964) Post-civil war Texas is the setting for this action-packed western which centres around the shipment of stolen rifles and a man's mission of revenge after the brutal murder of his family by Apache Indians. Starring Richard Boone and Stuart Whitman. Directed by Gordon Douglas

4.00 Entertainment UK. A fast-moving weekly guide to the best in film, theatre, dance and music from all over the country

5.00 Coming of Age. American comedy series (r)

5.30 ITN Morning News with Brenda Rowe. Ends at 6.00

CHANNEL 4

6.00 The Channel Four Daily

9.25 Murun Buchstansangur. Cartoon (r)

9.30 California Off Beat. More reports from the Sunshine state. This morning, how do Californians let off steam?

10.00 The West of the Imagination. Much of the history of America's "Wild West" can be seen through the eyes of painters such as George Caleb Bingham, Albert Bierstadt and Charles Nahl (r)

11.00 The Energy Alternative. The series on ways of saving energy visits Sweden — the world's role model for energy efficiency — and New England (r)

12.00 The Parliament Programme presented by Sue Cameron

12.30 Business Daily. Financial and business news service introduced by Susannah Simons

1.00 Sesame Street. Educational fun for pre-school children

2.00 Film: Northwest Passage (1940) Epic adventure, superbly photographed, starring Spencer Tracy as the leader of a gruelling 18th century expedition into Canada to wipe out a tribe of hostile Indians. With Robert Young. Directed by King Vidor

4.20 Eidelweiss. Bulgarian animation

4.30 Countdown. Richard Whiteley gets set for another bout of the words and numbers game, aided and abetted by Brian Johnston

5.00 *Boom! The children's magazine programme finds James Bowden* going to Glasgow for the first robot olympics and Graham Dangerfield reporting on his work with Britain's endangered wildlife

5.30 Same Difference. The magazine programme which looks at current affairs in the UK and abroad from the point of view of disabled people. Presented by Libby Cross

6.00 Duet. Run-of-the-mill American romantic comedy starring Mary Page Keller and Matthew Laurance

6.30 Remote Control. British version of MTV's hit comedy quiz show hosted by Anthony Wilson

7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Anne Perkins (Teletext) Weather

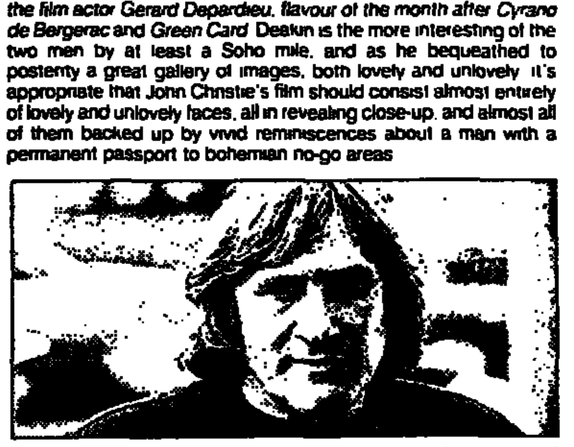
8.00 The Black Bag: India's Aids Crisis.

● CHOICE A fast worsening crisis, too, according to Dr I Gilada, of the Indian Health Organisation. He predicts that unless something drastic is done about it, India in the year 2000 *will* have more Aids cases than anywhere else on earth. If he is right, 95 per cent of the blood which Indians sell to the transfusion services is *unscreened*, and *if the blood of HIV-positive donors is rejected by* the health authorities in Bombay, all they have to do is go to blood banks outside the city limits. And there does not seem to be a lot of hope for the future when prostitutes, such as those interviewed tonight, say that they do not know anything about Aids or think that it has something to do with tobacco

8.30 Nature Watch. Julian Pettifer travels to the Scottish Highlands, the *last stronghold of Britain's otters (r). (Teletext)*

9.00 Without Walls: Salvage of a Soho Photographer — The Life and Unsteady Times of John Deakin and The Ugly Frog That Became a Prince.

● CHOICE The photographer is the late John Deakin, camera-toting habitué of clubs and pubs and mingler with the high and mighty and low and mighty (Callas, Picasso, Dylan Thomas, Francis Bacon, John Huston etc). The ugly frog (not a very nice way to talk about anybody even if he *is* French and no Adonis) is *the film actor Gerard Depardieu, flavour of the month after Cyrano de Bergerac* and *Green Card*. Deakin is the more interesting of the two men by at least a Soho mile, and as he bequeathed to posterity a great gallery of images, both lovely and unlovely, it's appropriate that John Christie's film should consist almost entirely of lovely and unlovely faces, all in revealing close-up, and almost all of them backed up by vivid reminiscences about a man with a permanent passport to bohemian no-go areas



Flavour of the month: film actor Gérard Depardieu (9.00pm)

10.00 Film: Bleak Moments (1971) Mike Leigh's award-winning first feature about lonely lives in a south London suburb. Anne Raitt and *her retarded sister (Sarah Stephenson) have their drab lives* temporarily brightened by the appearance of a young, guitar-playing hippie (Mike Bradwell)

12.05am Film: The Simple-Minded Murderer (1982) A powerful drama set in Thirties Sweden starring Stellan Skarsgard as a harelipped youth whose ill-treatment by a sadistic landowner (Hans Alfredson) finally ends in violence. Directed by Hans Alfredson. Ends at 2.05

ITV VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 6.25pm-7.00 Anglia News 7.30-8.00 Food Guide 12.25 Almost Grown 1.25 The Concert 2.25 The 1990 European Angling Supercup 3.00 How Was It For You? 3.30 Entertainment UK 4.30 All Action Sport Specials 5.00-5.30 Five Lives

BORDER

As London except: 1.50pm Santa Barbara 2.20-2.50 Cover Story: Jermain Jackson 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Lookaround Tuesday 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 7.30-8.00 The Sick Kids 11.30 International Fight Night 12.30 Superstars of Wrestling 1.25 Walkabout 3.15 Night Beat 4.10 Word of Mouth 4.40 Night Flight 5.00-5.30 Jobfinder

CENTRAL

As London except: 6.25pm-7.00 Central News 7.30-8.00 The Works 11.25 Fight Night 12.25 Film: Foreign Exchange 1.50 The Invisible Man 2.20 The Concert 3.20 Top Ten 3.50 Film: The Radio Cab Murder 5.05-5.30 Jobs

GRAMPIAN

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 North Tonight 6.30-7.00 Take the High Road 7.30-8.00 Portrait of the Wild 11.30 International Fight Night 12.30 Superstars of Wrestling 1.25 Film. Walkabout 3.15 Night Beat 4.10 Word of Mouth 4.40 Night Flight 5.00-5.30 Jobfinder

GRANADA

As London except: 6.30pm Granada Tonight 7.30-8.00 House Style 11.30 International Fight Night 12.30 Superstars of Wrestling 1.25 Film: Walkabout 3.15 Night Beat 4.10 Word of Mouth 4.40 Night Flight 5.00-5.30 Jobfinder

HTV WEST

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Sullivans 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 HTV News 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 7.30-8.00 Chain Reaction 11.30 Prisoner: Cell Block H 12.30 Ski Tips 1.00 Donahue 1.55 Film: Someone Behind the Door 3.35 The Glastonbury Festival 4.35 Word of Mouth 5.05-5.30 Jobfinder

HTV WALES

As HTV West except: 6.00pm-6.30 Wales at Six 7.30-8.00 Day Return

TSW

As London except: 2.20pm-2.50 High Days and Holidays 3.25-3.55 Home and Away 5.10-5.40 Families 6.00 TSW Today 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 7.30-8.00 Ark on the Move 11.30 The Sweeney 12.30 Superstars of Wrestling *1.25 Film. Walkabout 3.15* Night Beat 4.10 Word of Mouth 4.40 Night Flight 5.00-5.30 Farming News

TVS

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 The Young Doctors 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Coast to Coast 6.30 Blockbusters 7.30-8.00 A Taste of the South 11.25 Almost Grown 12.20 Schmerzle 2.05 Vivid 3.05 Kojak 4.05 Jack Thompson 4.35 Country Ways 4.50-5.30 Coast to Coast

TYNE TEES

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Farmhouse Kitchen 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Northern Life 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 7.30-8.00 The Useful Guide 11.25 International Fight Night 12.30 Wrestling 1.25 Film: Walkabout 3.05 Night Beat 4.10 Word of Mouth 4.40 Night Flight 5.00-5.30 Jobs

ULSTER

As London except: 1.50pm-2.20 Sons and Daughters 5.10-5.40 Home and Away 6.00 Six Tonight 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters 7.30-8.00 How Does Your Garden Grow? 11.30 International Fight Night 12.30 Superstars of Wrestling 1.20 Film Walkabout 3.15 Night Beat 4.10 Word of Mouth 4.40 Night Flight 5.00-5.30 Jobfinder

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 5.10pm-5.40 Home and *Away 6.00 Calendar 6.30-7.00 Blockbusters* 7.30-8.00 Taxi 11.25 Men 12.30 The Young Riders 1.30 Hodson Confidential 2.00 The Secret of the Phantom of the Opera 3.00 Music Box 4.00 Word of Mouth 4.30-5.30 Jobs

S4C

Starts: 6.00 C4 Daily 9.25 Murun Buchstansangur 9.30 California Off Beat 10.00 The West of the Imagination 11.00 The energy Alternative 12.00 Sbectel 12.10 Slot Meithrin 1.00 Countdown 1.30 Business Daily 2.00 The New Age 2.30 The Late Late Show 3.30 Japan: Live Performance 4.30 Slot 23 5.15 Tonight With Jonathan Ross 5.45 Heno *6.00 Newyddion 6.10* Heno 6.40 Pobol Y Cwm 7.00 Nyth Cacwn 7.30 Graffiti 8.00 The Wonder Years 8.30 Newyddion 9.00 Affairs of the Heart 10.00 The Golden Girls 10.30 Without Walls 11.30 Cervantes 12.05 Film: Simple Minded Murderer 2.05 Diweddi

RTE 1

Starts: 12.30pm Talkabout 1.00 News 1.40 *House and Home* 2.05 Perry Mason 3.00 News: This Country's Rockin 4.00 News: Bellamy on Top of the World 4.30 Lillie 5.30 A Country Practice 6.01 Six-One 7.00 Fair City 7.30 Head to One 8.00 Check Up 8.30 Simply Delicious Fish 9.00 News 9.30 Today Tonight 10.10 Arts Express 10.40 St Elsewhere 11.30 News

NETWORK 2

Starts: 2.30pm Bosco 6.30 Home and Away 7.00 Nuacht 7.08 Cursai 7.30 Glenroe 8.00 News; The Streets of San Francisco 9.00 As Seo Amach 9.30 News; The Oscars

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
6.00am The DJ Kat Show 8.35 Mrs Pepperpot 8.45 Panel Pot Pourri 10.00 Here's Lucy 10.30 The Young Doctors 11.00 The Bold and the Beautiful 11.30 The Young and the Restless 12.30pm Sale of the Century 1.00 True Confessions 1.30 Another World 2.20 Santa Barbara 2.45 Wife of the Week 3.15 Bewitched 3.45 The DJ Kat Show 5.00 Punky Brewster 5.30 McHale's Navy 6.00 Family Ties 6.30 Sale of the Century 7.00 Love at First Sight 7.30 Doctor, Doctor 8.00 Lonesome Dove: The final part of the mini series 10.00 Love at First Sight 10.30 Werewolf 11.00 Police Story 12.00 Pages from Skytext

SKY NEWS

● Via the Astra and Marcopolo satellites.
News on the hour.
5.00am Sunrise 9.30 Newsline 10.30 Beyond 2000 11.00 International Business Report 11.30 Dayline 12.30pm NBC Today 1.30 NBC Today 2.30 Parliament Live 3.15 Prime Minister's Question Time 3.30 Parliament Live 4.30 Beyond 2000 5.00 Live at Five 6.30 Newsline 8.30 Target 10.30 Newsline 11.30 NBC News 12.30am CBS News 1.30 NBC News 2.30 CBS News 3.30 NBC News 4.30 Target

SKY MOVIES

● Via the Astra satellite.
6.00am Showcase
10.00 The Further Adventures of the Wilderness Family (1978): Mother Nature continues to rear her dangerous head. Starring Robert Logan and Susan D Shaw
12.00 The Mark of Zorro (1940): Tyrone Power stars as the masked bandit
2.00pm A Man and a Woman — Twenty Years On (1986): Anouk Aimee is now a film producer and Jean-Louis Trintignant is a racing car driver about to embark on the Paris-Dakar rally
4.00 The Steam Driven Adventures of Riverboat Bill: Cartoon
6.00 Gentlemen Prefer Blondes (1953): Marilyn Monroe and Jane Russell sing musical gems such as "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend" as they sail off for Paris
7.30 The 63rd Academy Awards: A repeat of last night's Oscar ceremony
12.00 Wall Street (1987): Charlie Sheen's young dealer is seduced by Michael Douglas's promises of money and power in Oliver Stone's drama about insider dealing
2.15am Dracula's Widow (1987): Sylvia Kristel gives the tale of the supernatural an erotic twist
4.00 She's Back (1988) A woman returns from the dead to goad *her* husband into avenging her murder. Starring Carrie Fisher and Robert Joy. Ends at 5.25

EUROSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
5.00am International Business Report 5.30 European Business Today 6.00 The DJ Kat Show 7.30 Eurobics 8.00 World Skating Championships 9.30 International Motor Sport 10.30 Eurobics 11.00 Motor Cycling Grand Prix of Japan 12.00 Australian Masters Golf 2.00pm Ice Speedway World Championships 3.00 Rodeo 3.30 Basketball — *Men's European Cup 4.30 World Strength* Championships 5.00 Spanish Goals 5.30 World Championship Cross Country 6.30 Eurosport News 7.00 Cycling. Milan-San Remo Classic 8.00 WWF Wrestling 9.00 German Rally 9.30 European Cup Winners Cup Basketball 11.00 Cyclocross World Championships 12.00 Eurosport News

SCREENSPORT

● Via the Astra satellite.
7.00am Motorsport Rallycross 8.00 Spain Spain Sport 8.15 Spanish Football Highlights 8.45 Ten Pin Bowling 10.00 Stop-USWA Wrestling 11.00 NBA Basketball 1.00pm NHRA Drag Racing 2.00 Powersports International 3.00 Action Auto 3.30 Fight Night at the Forum 5.00 Stop-World of Champs 6.00 Update: US Pro Ski Tour Slalom 6.45 Ten Pin Bowling 8.00 Live Pro *Box 10.00 Motorsport German Rally* Champs 10.30 Futbol Espanol Highlights 11.00 World Snooker Classics

MTV

● Via the Astra satellite.
Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

LIFESTYLE

● Via the Astra satellite.
10.00am Great American Gameshows 11.15 Coffee Break 11.20 Everyday Workout 11.50 Slim Cooking 12.15pm Sally Jessy Raphael 1.05 Body Talk 1.10 Search for Tomorrow 1.35 The Edge of Night 2.00 Divorce Court 2.25 Lifestyle Plus 2.35 Monty Nash 3.05 Remington Steele 3.55 Tea Break 4.05 Doc 4.35 Great American Gameshows 6.00 Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 8.00 Close 10.00 Sell-a-Vision Shopping Channel 12.00 Satellite Jukebox

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
1.15pm The Last Hurrah (1958) Spencer Tracy stars in John Ford's comedy about a mayor seeking re-election for one last term. Co-stars Pat O'Brien
3.20 The Movie Show
3.50 Mary, Queen of Scots (1971). Lavish costume drama *about the principled monarch*, whose refusal to back down on her religious stance causes her to lose her head at the insistence of the formidable Queen Elizabeth I. Starring Vanessa Redgrave and Glenda Jackson
6.00 Silence of the Heart (1984) A family tries to understand the motives behind a suicide. Starring Mariette Hartley and Howard Hesseman
7.35 The Movie Show
8.00 Goodbye Supermom A female executive (Valerie Harper) abandons her career-orientated lifestyle for one of a more domestic bent and has trouble adapting. Co-stars Wayne Rogers
10.00 Elvira, Mistress of the Dark (1988) Scream queen Elvira stars in her own horror adventure, searching for a mystical tome. Co-stars Cassandra Peterson and W Morgan Sheppard
11.35 Three Wishes of Billy Grier (1984) A terminally-ill boy has three ambitions to fulfil before he dies: to find his long-lost father, to have an affair and to play the saxophone in front of an audience. Starring Ralph Macchio, Betty Buckley and Hal Holbrook
1.15am Intimate Betrayal A young wife discovers that her husband is not all that he seems. Starring Melody Anderson and James Brolin. Ends at 3.00

THE SPORTS CHANNEL

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
2.00pm Italian Football 4.00 Superbouts 5.00 Motor Sport Extra 6.00 American *Sports Cavalcade* 7.00 Supercross 8.00 Boxing 10.00 NWA Wrestling 11.00 Boxing

THE POWER STATION

● Via the Marcopolo satellite.
7.00am Twenty-one hours of rock and pop

RADIO 3

6.35-6.55am Open University (FM only) 6.55 Weather; News

7.00 Morning Concert: Vivaldi (Bassoon Concerto in C, RV 476: Daniel Smith; ECO); Bax (The Garden of Fand: Ulster Orchestra)

7.30 News

7.35 Morning Concert (cont): Milhaud (Scaramouche: John Ogden and Brenda Lucas, pianos); Mozart (Zeffiretti lusinghieri, Idomeneo: Munich Radio Orchestra); Bizet (Symphony in C: Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields)

8.30 News

8.35 Composers of the Week: Tchaikovsky (Piano Trio in A minor, Op 50; Does the Day Reign?, Op 47 No 6; Spring Song, Op 54 No 13; Simple Words, Op 60 No 12)

9.35 Storm, Stress and Gentler Pursuits: Haydn (String Quartet in F minor, Op 20 No 5); Robert Simpson (Quartet No 10, For Peace: Coull String Quartet); Haydn (Andante and Variations in F minor, H XVII 6); Beethoven (Sonata in D, Op 28, Pastoral: Alfred Brendel, piano); Haydn (Symphony No 49 in F minor, La Passione: The English Concert under Trevor Pinnock, harpsichord)

11.25 Royal Liverpool PO under Richard Hickox; Royal Philharmonic Choir under Ian Tracey perform Vaughan Williams (Overture, The Wasps); Elgar (Enigma Variations); Finzi (Intimations of Immortality, Op 29) (r)

1.00pm News

1.05 St David's Hall Lunchtime Recital: The pianist Iwan Llewelyn Jones plays Bartók (Suite, Op 14); Liszt (Vallée d'Obermann); Scriabin (Sonata No 9 in F, Op 68, Black Mass); Rachmaninov (Preludes, Op 23: No 4 in D, No 6 in E flat, No 7 in C minor); Chopin (Ballade in F minor, Op 52 No 4)

2.00 Music Weekly (r)

2.45 Don Quixote of the Cello: Paul Tortelier. Lyndon Jenkins with the final programme commemorating the French cellist. Valentini (Sonata in E minor: with Shuku Iwasaki, piano); Mendelssohn (Cello Sonata, Op 58: with Maria de la Pau, piano); Lyndon Jenkins talks to Paul Tortelier; Strauss (Don Quixote: with the RPO under Beecham)

4.15 Brahms (Seven Fantasies, Op 116: Emil Gilels, piano)

4.40 New Music for Brass: The final programme, with James Langley. Michael Ball (Hammer of the North: Williams Fairey Engineering Band under Roy Newsome); Richard Rodney Bennett (The Flowers of the Forest); Arthur Butterworth (Odin, From the Land of Fire and Ice: Desford Colliery Caterpillar Band under James Watson)

5.30 Mainly for Pleasure

7.00 News 7.05 Third Ear

7.30 BBC SO under Lothar Zagrosek, with Maurice Bourgue, oboe, performs Brahms (Symphony No 3); Mozart (Oboe Concerto in C, K 314); Schubert (Symphony No 4, Tragic)

9.05 Drama Now: Seize the Fire

● CHOICE: Tom Paulin's updating of Aeschylus has the shackled Prometheus (Gerard Murphy) confident that Zeus, now metamorphosed into a tin-pot general, will soon find rebel tanks on the lawns outside his presidential palace to disprove Oceanus's theory that the chained Titan was "daft as a brush" (Paulin's words) to take on Zeus. Strangely enough, Aeschylus's tragic hero adapts well to a world where humans are knee-capped, the flame of free thought is always being doused and the gods sit around awarding each other brownie points. It is helpful if you can accept Prometheus as a dissident in the tradition of Walesa and Havel

9.40 Membra Jesu Nostri: Surge amica mea. The fourth of seven Holy Week cantatas by Buxtehude, in a Lutheran devotional context

10.05 Variations, Blues and Concord: Joanna MacGregor plays the first of two recitals of American piano music. Nancarrow (Prelude and Blues); Ives (Varied Air and Variations); Erroll Garner, transc MacGregor (Blues; Bounce); Copland (Variations) (r)

10.35 Music in Our Time: Robert Saxton (The Ring of Eternity; Concerto for orchestra; The Sentinel of the Rainbow: BBC SO; London Sinfonietta under Oliver Knussen) 11.30 News

11.35 Composers of the Week: Respighi (r) 12.35am Close

RADIO 4

(s) Stereo on FM

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing; Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day 6.30 Today, with Brian Redhead and John Humphrys, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 8.58 Weather

9.00 News

9.05 Call Nick Clarke: 071-580 4411

10.00 News, Medicine Now, with Geoff Watts

10.30 Five Stories for Holy Week: Conversations with God, by Sara Maitland. Helen Lederer reads "Market Forces" (2) (s)

10.45 Daily Service (s)

11.00 News; Citizens (s)

11.25 From Our Own Correspondent: Reflections of life and politics abroad

11.50 Great Lift Journeys: Steven Wells travels 1,500 feet below ground in the rattling cage of the Wheal Jane tin mine in Cornwall (s)

12.00 News; You and Yours, with *Debbie Thrower*

12.25pm The Best of My Word! The third of six of the most memorable tussles between Frank Muir, Denis Norden and their guests (r) 12.55 Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast

2.00 News, Woman's Hour: Cheryl Armitage tackles the lure of the rugby pitch in the run up to the first women's rugby world cup; there is a discussion on how John Major compares with Margaret Thatcher as prime minister; and an item on Muslim food

3.00-4.00 Prime Minister's Questions (FM only)

3.00 Thirty-Minute Theatre (LW only): Good Friday, by Pat Davies. A chance meeting with a stranger changes Stella's life. With Joan Walker

3.32 Richard Baker Compares Notes (LW only) with concert pianists Kathryn Stott and Joanna MacGregor

4.00 News

4.05 Age to Age: Barry Cunliffe talks to David Starkey about the power struggles that took place among the ruling families of Tudor England

4.30 Kaleidoscope: Kate Saunders reviews Thomas Keneally's book *Flying Hero First Class*; Paul Vaughan talks to the literary critic Denis Donoghue about his autobiography, *Warrenpoint*; there is a report on Theatre Venture's production of *Wild Child* for a deaf and hearing *audience*; and the results of the poetry competition are announced (s)

5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News; Financial Report

6.30 The Secret Life of Rosewood Avenue: Mrs Garland's Good Deeds. The fourth of a six-part comedy written by Stephen Sheridan (s)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 File on 4

8.00 Science Now (r)

8.30 Lent Observed: Abandonment. Hugh O'Shaughnessy, the Latin America correspondent of the *Observer*, reflects on the Passion story (s)

8.45 In Touch: Magazine for the visually handicapped

9.15 Kaleidoscope (s) (broadcast at 4.30pm)

9.45 The Financial World Tonight (s) 9.59 Weather

10.00 The World Tonight (s)

10.45 A Book at Bedtime: The Journal of a Disappointed Man

● CHOICE: The naturalist W.N.P. Barbellion, extracts from whose diaries are being read by Jeremy Nicholas, died when he was in his twenties. This fact gives the readings a particular poignancy. Barbellion had no way of knowing just *how disappointed in life he was* going to be. The mood in tonight's first instalment — there are another seven to come — is, however, mainly optimistic, despite early intimations of Barbellion's mortality, a death in the family, and the young naturalist's initial stumbling over the hurdles scattered across the track that was to lead to his first job in zoology (s)

11.00 The Radio Programme (s) (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament

12.00-12.30am News, incl 12.20 Weather 12.33 Shipping

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053kHz/285m;1089kHz/275m;FM-97.6-99.8. Radio 2: 693kHz/433m;909kHz/330m;FM-88-90.2. Radio 3: 1215kHz/247m; FM-90-92.4. Radio 4: 198kHz/1515m;FM-92.4-94.6. Radio 5: 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. LBC: 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. Capital: 1548kHz/194m; FM 95.8. GLR: 1458kHz/206m; FM 94.9, World Service: MW 648kHz/463m.

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW 5.00am Gary King 8.30 Philip Schofield 9.00 Simon Bates 12.30pm Newsbeat 12.45 Gary Davies 3.00 Dave Lee Travis in the Afternoon 5.30 News '91 6.00 Mark Goodier's Evening Session 9.00 Soul by the Sea (1 of 3) (r) 10.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00-2.00am Bob Harris

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 4.00am Alex Lester: The Early Show 6.00 Ken Bruce 7.30 Derek Jameson 9.30 Katie Boyle 11.00 Jimmy Young 1.05pm David Jacobs 2.00 Gloria Hunniford 4.00 Brian Matthew 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 At Home with Hinge and Bracket (r) 7.30 Steve Race 9.00 The Life and Times of Evelyn Laye (r) 10.00 Chris Stuart 12.05am Jazz Parade 12.35 Bill Rennells with Night Ride 3.00-4.00 A Little Night Music

RADIO 5

6.00am World Service Newsdesk 6.30 Morning Edition incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News Sport 9.00 Take Five 10.25 1, 2, 3, *4, 5 for toddlers 10.45 How We Worked Then The Docks* Memories of working life during the Twenties and Thirties 11.00 Sport 11.02 As Radio 4 11.25 Sound Advice Problems with landlords and tenants, incl 12.00 News Sport 12.30pm Landmark Sea-singing myths 1.00 Sport 1.05 As Radio 3 2.00 Sport 2.05 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 (broadcast at 10.25am) 2.30 World Service Health Matters 2.45 Europe's World 3.00 Sport 3.05 Outlook 3.30 Discovery 4.00 Sport 4.05 Indian Pacific 4.35 Five Aside 7.20 The BFG Michael Hordern reads the second of an eight-part adaptation of Roald Dahl's classic children's story 7.35 Hating Alison Ashley. The first of a two-part play by Robin Klein (r) 8.00 Starting Out Unemployment 8.30 The Answerphone Religion. Tel. 0345 909 693 9.30 Hit the North, incl 10.00 Sport 11.00 Sport 11.09 World Service: Your World 11.23 Business Matters 11.38 The World Today 11.53 Words of Faith *11.58-12.05am Sport*

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT 5.00am Morgenmagazin 5.35 News in German; Headlines in English and French 5.47 Press Review 5.52 Financial News 5.58 Weather and Travel News 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Londres Matin 6.59 Weather 7.00 News 7.09 24 Hours; News Summary and Financial News 7.30 News Ideas 7.50 Give Us Our Daily Bread 8.00 News 8.09 Words of Faith 8.15 Concert Hall 9.00 News 9.15 Waveguide 9.25 Book Choice 9.30 Financial News, Sports Roundup 9.45 Network UK 10.01 Discovery 10.30 Sports International 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Mid Magazine 11.59 Travel News 12.00 News 12.09pm News About Britain 12.15 Multitrack 1 12.45 Sports Roundup 1.00 News, 24 Hours, incl Financial News 2.00 News, Outlook 2.30 *Off the Shelf: Holy Week Stories* 2.45 *On the Record* 3.00 News 3.15 A Jolly Good Show 4.00 News 4.09 News About Britain 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 News 5.09 Commentary 5.15 The World Today 5.30 Londres Soir 6.15 BBC English 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 German Features 7.54 News in German 8.00 News 8.09 The World Today 8.25 Words of Faith 8.30 Meridian 9.01 Sports Roundup 9.15 Business Matters 9.30 Omnibus 10.00 Newshour 11.00 News 11.05 Commentary 11.10 Financial News 11.15 Concert Hall 12.00 Newsdesk 12.30am Omnibus 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 Images of Britain 1.45 Country Style 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Development 91 3.00 News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 Discovery 3.59 Discovery 3.59 Weather 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 The World Today 4.45 News and Press Review in German

COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TELEVISION AND RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALLE

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Orkney case children to stay under safety orders

By Kerry Gill

THE nine Orkney children, who were seized by social workers last month after allegations of ritual sexual abuse, were neither physically nor sexually abused, according to medical evidence produced at a children's hearing yesterday.

Counsel, acting for the four families involved, disclosed the information when the panel met to decide whether to extend the place of safety orders imposed three weeks ago. But extensions were granted for a further 21 days as the panel said the circumstances had not changed since the last meeting.

Edward Targowski, QC, for one of the families, said: "Medical examinations have revealed that there is no physical evidence consistent with sexual or physical abuse. There is a total lack of evidence." He argued that the circumstances had changed.

Gordon Sloan, acting reporter to the panel, immediately told the hearing that the medical evidence had been given to counsel on the understanding that it would not be disclosed at this stage. Mr Sloan said: "I am not prepared to discuss evidence at the hearing. That is a matter for the court." However, he added that while medical evidence did not show signs of physical or sexual abuse they did not indicate whether the children had taken part in "simulated sexual intercourse" or had been subjected to "moral danger".

Earlier in the hearing, Ron Clancy, for another family, said his clients' children had not shown any signs of physical or sexual abuse either. He said a Sunday newspaper report, that quoted Orkney council's press officer as stating that the children had been abused, had caused great distress. Nick Clayton, the press officer, claimed that he had been misquoted.

The panel said they had decided to err on the side of caution and keep the children in care until the allegations were put to a sheriff next month.

Hitch in Heathrow slots fight

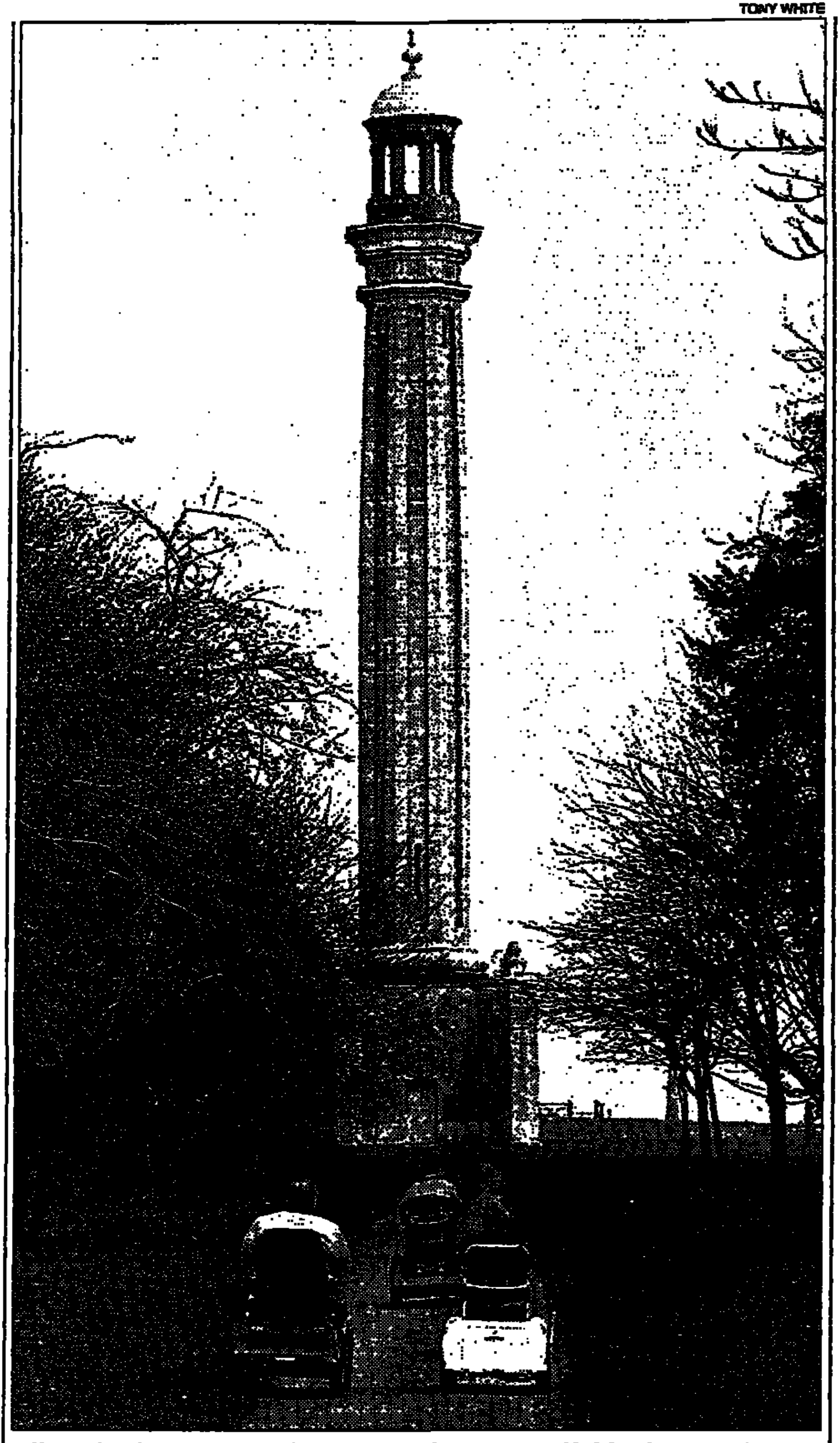
By Harvey Elliott

THE battle over the allocation of slots at Heathrow airport took a new, and potentially chaotic, twist last night when United Airlines were told they could not take over Pan Am's operations.

Heathrow's scheduling committee suspended an earlier decision to transfer Pan Am's slots to United following complaints from Virgin Atlantic that to do so would have been technically in breach of regulations.

Richard Branson, chairman of Virgin, said last night: "We had an agreemennt that there would be two British airlines and two American carriers flying in direct and equal competition across the Atlantic from Heathrow."

TONY WHITE



Trust aid: disabled people driving battery-driven cars, provided free by the National Trust, view Capability Brown's Cobham Monument in Stowe landscape gardens

Price of a local phone call falls

By David Young

THE price of a local phone call will fall by 4.5 per cent after Easter and tighter price controls on British Telecom, which will lead to further cuts in charges by 6.25 per cent, will begin operating on August 1, Peter Lilley, the trade and industry secretary, said yesterday. Trunk call charges will fall by 7.3 per cent from April 2 and in June, BT expects to cut the cost of international calls by 10 per cent.

The price reductions are part of a "rolling programme", after the government's decision to scrap BT's and Mercury's duopoly on telecommunications, Mr Lilley told the Commons. He said: "As the rate of inflation falls over the coming months, I expect that BT's charges will not only fall in real terms but in absolute terms as well. This is excellent news for the consumer."

Mr Lilley said that further steps, to increase choice for telecommunications users unveiled yesterday, will confirm Britain's position at the forefront of satellite operations in Europe and provide much liberalisation for the business sector.

As a result, companies may install telecommunications networks for their own use without needing a separate licence, and a licence will enable anyone to offer two-way telecommunications services by satellite where it does not involve a connection to the public switched network.

A recent survey by National Utility Services showed that while BT is competive in the trunk and overseas markets consumers are at a disadvantage when calling locally.

Leading article, page 13

Political sketch

Sudden attack by a placid cat

AS parliament gathered yesterday *The Independent's* (entirely serious) astronomers' guide to the sky at night warned:

"Two other sky-sights to look out for this month involve 'space debris'... You should expect to see more shooting stars than usual, as Earth ploughs through a cloud of debris deposited by Comet Thatcher".

But there was only Harry Greenway (C, Ealing N). One cannot but admire Mr Greenway, who is currently bailed on charges of corruption involving British Rail contracts. Yesterday, he told the House that he dislikes the flavour of the glue you have to lick on House of Commons envelopes. He suggested that peppermint might make a more attractive flavour. Answering him, John MacGregor, the Leader of the House, wondered light-heartedly whether rice pudding might make a refreshing change. Nobody suggested porridge.

All this occurred after a strange apparent attack on the chairman of the Tory party, Chris Patten, by one of his own side: the tall, quiet, serious, Sir Michael Neubert (C, Romford): the mildest of men.

When *Roth's Parliamentary Profiles* is reduced to telling us that a man wears spectacles and plays the oboe, it is a sign that little else comes to mind. Sir Michael strikes most of us as a calm, intelligent behind-the-scenes man: a convinced Thatcherite, but not a troublemaker. Chris Patten, for his part, is thought to be somewhat on the left of the party but generally charms his critics with a sort of jokey affability.

So when, unprovoked, Sir Michael Neubert leapt up yesterday afternoon, quoted a Sunday newspaper's charge that Mr Patten would "prefer to visit the social market than Romford market," and asked Mr Patten to answer, it was like one of those embarrassing moments when an exceptionally placid domestic cat suddenly flies for the leg of an important visitor and sinks its teeth in.

"Ooh I *am* sorry!" I felt like calling down to Mr Patten from the press gallery, "He's never done anything like that before."

Mr Patten looked unsure (like the rest of us) whether it was intended kindly. He smiled a touch ruefully, listed a handful of the government's achievements, and sat down. Moments later he proceeded to tell Dame Elaine Kellett-Bowman (C, Lancaster) that he had been "looking forward for years" to visiting her constituency: a visit which was to be "the highlight of my autumn".

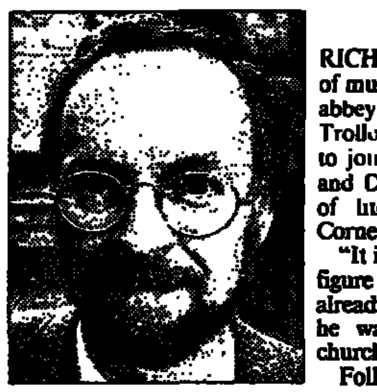
I do not know whether Mr Patten is the kind of chap who kicks pigeons, but if I had been a pigeon in his path as he walked home after work last night, I should have hopped quickly aside.

Shortly afterwards, debate was resumed between the front-bench heavyweights. The industry secretary, Peter Lilley, was sparkier than usual, describing Labour's various policy proposals as "never knowingly under-launched". Roy Hattersley (never knowingly under-lunched) was not present to hear this, but Gordon Brown waited in his corner of the ring, jaw working, poised for the attack. Labour's industry shadow is never knowingly under-punched.

True to form yesterday, Mr Brown came out, fists flying. But then he always does. Sometimes his lower jaw seems jammed in "jut" mode. His speeches are a sort of animated shopping list: a punchy litany, point by point, of awful things you didn't know about the government's record.

MATTHEW PARRIS

Trollope's niche is booked in the abbey's corner



Mortimer: agitation and letters get things done

By William Cash

RICHARD Mortimer, keeper of muniments at Westminster abbey, said yesterday that Trollope was now "odds-on" to join Chaucer, Shakespeare and Dickens on Britain's roll of literary fame in Poets' Corner.

"It is odd that such a major figure as Trollope is not already there, particularly as he was so devoted to the church" he said.

Following a letter of support to the Trollope Society from John Major – who is a joint member with his wife, Norma – an internal memorandum concerning the famous niche is understood to be circulating around the abbey's cloisters of power "It can't do any harm having the prime minister on your side" Dr Mortimer said.

Historically, applications to join the club have always been helped by an influential proposer Ben Jonson was put up by the Earl of Oxford; Shakespeare by Pope, Burlington et al. "Today it is public petitions – as for Dylan Thomas – letters to *The Times*, and agitation within the great and the good that sway things" said Dr Mortimer.

The final decision will lie with Michael Mayne, Dean of Westminster, who has thought of turning the plain window in the south trancept into a stained-glass memorial for 30 literary notables. If the dean can find the funds required, Trollope is likely to be the first to have the laurels of immortality bestowed upon him.

The Trollope Society was founded in 1987 by Lord Rees-Mogg, who said that he would gladly use a crow bar to remove undeserving writers from the corner, such as D H Lawrence, to give space to Trollope. "He's obviously one of the major English novelists and in some ways the most English of them all. In terms of portraying the national culture and character he is closer than any of them. If you listed ten English novelists you would have to put his name in." He believes that Trollope deserves a place because his popularity has grown over the years, unlike some of the other names who are now forgotten.

● **Evergreen here:** The members of the Trollope Society dined in the Reform Club last night to celebrate their hero, and to demonstrate after more than a century that of all the needs a book has, the chief need is still that it be readable (Philip Howard writes).

Trollope did not really approve of women, as he put it, "getting up on their legs". But he would have cheered for Victoria Glendinning, who is finishing a biography of him. She spoke about the naming of names, and the revolution in nomenclature since the 19th century.

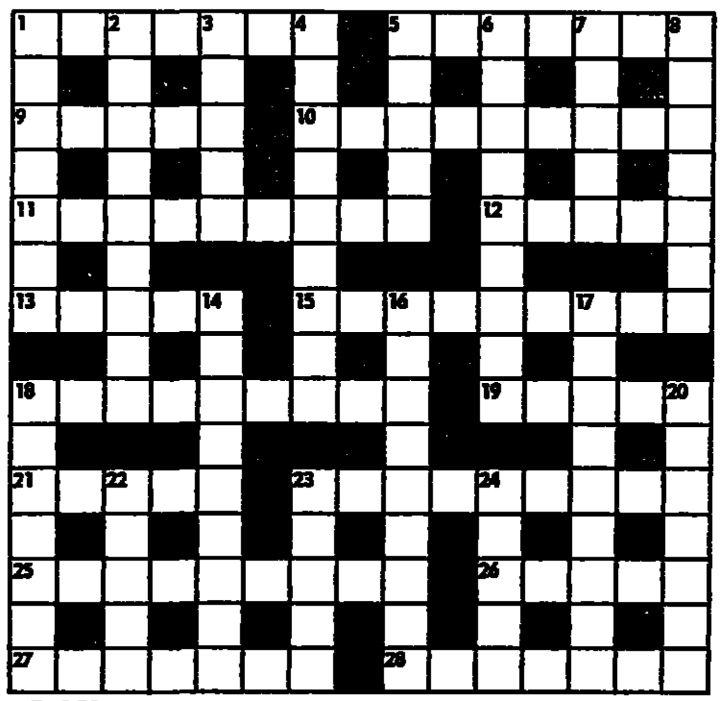
TOMORROW IN THE TIMES

Déjà vu: Elaine Showalter is unsurprised by our troubled times, by the increasing divorce rate, "virgin" birth, Aids and homophobia. The American feminist has seen all this "sexual anarchy" before – in her reading of the novels, and her study of the mores, of a hundred years ago

Football fever: A preview of the latest round of European Championship football matches, in which Scotland play Bulgaria, Northern Ireland take on Yugoslavia, Wales travel to Belgium and, at Wembley, England play host to Northern Ireland

Plus: As country music fans await this weekend's Wembley jamboree, David Toop takes a look at the ageing line-up

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,563



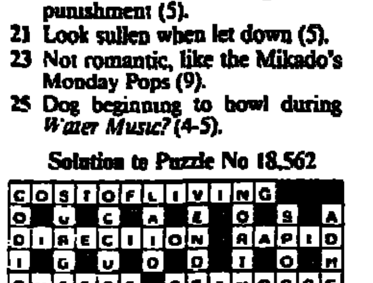
ACROSS

1 Offensive way to hold a silk handkerchief (7).
5 Petition is thus lawful (7).
9 Knight – a man who has made a fortune in India (5).
10 Does a revolutionary have to put a ring in his hair? (9)
11 On stage, this lady's maid is a sure bet to be flighty (9).
12 In Bow be allowed about a hundred to be chosen (5).
13 Bequeath, as some men do willingly (5).
15 Next one in the office – a big name with other ranks (9).
18 Current centre backing dull pupils of similar ability? (9).
19 Reversed roles, incurring violent punishment (5).
21 Look sullen when let down (5).
23 Not romantic, like the Mikado's Monday Pops (9).
25 Dog beginning to howl during *Water Music?* (4-5).
26 Grieved for Edward, the viscount's son (5).
27 Strange dialect in General Booth's headquarters (7).
28 Reaching this point of no return made Caesar cross (7).

DOWN

1 Exclamation of dismay about Head's cunning strategy (7).
2 In Paris one made lively progress, not being tied down (9).
3 Caution a Republican for accepting an honour (5).
4 Missed tea break – made a little coffee (9).
5 Immerse in southern river (5).
6 Flexibility displayed in writings about the south (9).
7 Way to travel on escaping from a wind-storm (5).
8 Affectedly dainty note originally reproduced through this (7).
14 Turning-point reached when draw-sheet is replaced (9).
16 Short break before end of campaign upset Russian officer (9).
17 Like an old Arab artist in picturesque surroundings (9)
18 See doctor outside about a strain (7).
20 Young fellow is suffering to become a champion (7).
22 Force away the remainder, say (5).
23 Barbarous game restricted by church leaders at first (5).
24 Gentleman in India has turned up to the same place (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 18,562



Concise crossword page 15

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?

By Philip Howard

HAWKSHAW
a. The merlin
b. Autumn leaves
c. A detective

SUPER SECOND
a. A nanosecond
b. A boxer's manager
c. A goodish claret

COPROLOGY
a. Literary indecency
b. Study of precious stones
c. A work by Rabelais

ARIOSE
a. Full of air
b. Songlike
c. A garden sprinkler

Answers on page 20

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and road works information, 24 hours a day dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
C London (within N & S Circs)	731
M-ways/roads M4-M1	732
M-ways/roads M1 Dartford T	733
M-ways/roads Dartford T M23	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.

WEATHER

Scotland, Northern Ireland and northern England should have bright or sunny spells. Wales, the Midlands and southern England should be cloudy, with some brightness north of the Thames Valley and patchy rain to the south. A windy day, particularly in the South, with gales on coasts. Outlook: any rain clearing the South by Thursday. Then bright in all areas, although northern Scotland may be cloudy.

ABROAD

MIDDAY: t=thunder; d=drizzle; fg=fog; s=sun; sl=sleet; sn=snow; f=fair; c=cloud; r=rain

	C	F			C	F	
Ajaccio	13	55	f	Madrid	9	48	f
Akrotiri	22	72	s	Majorca	13	55	r
Alex'dria	22	72	s	Malaga	17	63	f
Algiers	13	55	c	Malta	20	68	s
Amst'dm	9	48	s	Melb'rne	23	73	s
Athens	18	64	s	Miami*	28	82	c
Bahrain	23	73	s	Milan	12	54	r
Barbads*	29	84	r	Montreal*	0	32	sn
Barcelna	11	52	c	Moscow	4	39	c
Belgrade	22	72	s	Munich	7	45	d
Berlin	7	45	c	Naples	16	61	c
Bermuda*	23	73	f	N Delhi	28	82	s
Biarritz	9	48	c	N York*	8	46	c
Borde'x	9	48	c	Nice	13	55	r
Brussels	11	52	s	Oslo	8	46	s
Budapst	20	68	f	Paris	8	46	c
B Aires*	31	88	s	Perth	19	66	s
Cairo	23	73	s	Prague	8	46	c
Cape Tn	30	86	s	Reykjavik	9	48	r
C'blanca	12	54	r	Rhodes	19	66	s
Chicago*	6	43	c	Rio de J	25	77	c
Ch'church	18	64	f	Riyadh	27	81	s
Cologne	7	45	c	Rome	15	59	f
C'phagn	8	46	s	Salzburg	11	52	f
Corfu	23	73	s	S F'risco*	11	52	c
Dublin	9	48	s	Santiago*	30	86	s
Dubrovnik	21	70	c	S Paulo*	21	70	d
Faro	15	59	s	Seoul	18	64	s
Florence	15	59	f	Sing'por	28	82	c
Frankfurt	10	50	c	St'kholm	8	46	s
Funchal	16	61	c	Strasb'rg	8	46	c
Geneva	9	48	c	Sydney	23	73	s
Gibraltar	15	59	c	Tangier	14	57	c
Helsinki	1	34	c	Tel Aviv	20	68	c
Hong K	22	72	c	Tenerife	19	66	f
Innsbrck	13	55	f	Tokyo	11	52	c
Istanbul	9	48	c	Toronto*	6	43	c
Jeddah	25	77	s	Tunis	20	68	f
Jo'burg*	20	68	c	Valencia	16	61	f
Karachi	32	90	s	Vanc'ver*	8	46	f
L Palmas	18	64	c	Venice	17	63	c
Le Tquet	10	50	f	Vienna	11	52	c

* denotes figures are latest available

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.375	2.225
Austria Sch	21.70	20.30
Belgium Fr	63.25	59.35
Canada $	2.165	2.015
Denmark Kr	11.81	11.11
Finland Mkk	7.37	6.92
France Fr	10.41	9.76
Germany Dm	3.08	2.88
Greece Dr	330	310
Hong Kong $	14.35	13.35
Ireland Pt	1.15	1.08
Italy Lira	2290	2150
Japan Yen	259.50	242.50
Netherlands Gld	3.46	3.25
Norway Kr	11.98	11.28
Portugal Esc	267	251
South Africa Rd	5.35	4.85
Spain Pta	190	177
Sweden Kr	11.21	10.53
Switzerland Fr	2.63	2.46
Turkey Lira	6650	6150
USA $	1.86	1.74
Yugoslavia Dnr	38.00	26.00

Rates for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 10C (50F) min 6pm to 6am, 2C (36F) Rain 24hr to 6pm, nil Sun 24hr to 6pm, 5.2 hr.

GLASGOW

Sunday: Temp: max 6am to 6pm, 12C (54F); min 6pm to 6am, -1C (30F). Rain: 24hr to 6pm, nil. Sun: 24hr to 6pm, 9.7 hr.

AROUND BRITAIN

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	6.7	.01	11	52	sunny
Anglesey	9.2	-	10	50	sunny
Aviemore	5.5	.02	12	54	bright
Belfast	8.6	-	12	54	sunny
Birmingham	0.1	-	10	50	cloudy
Blackpool	8.3	-	10	50	sunny
Bognor Regis	6.5	-	11	52	sunny
Bournemouth	6.8	-	12	54	sunny
Brighton	5.6	-	12	54	bright
Bristol	7.8	-	12	54	sunny
Buxton	0.7	-	8	46	bright
Cardiff	6.9	-	11	52	sunny
Clacton	2.3	.01	9	48	bright
Douglas	10.9	-	10	50	sunny
Edinburgh	10.1	-	12	54	sunny
Eskdalemuir	10.0	-	11	52	sunny
Falmouth	9.8	-	11	52	sunny
Folkestone	8.9	-	10	50	sunny
Hastings	6.5	-	10	50	bright
Hunstanton	4.0		8	46	sunny
Jersey	10.2	-	11	52	sunny
Kinloss	4.5		12	54	bright
Leeds	-	-	10	50	cloudy
Lerwick	0.7	-	9	48	cloudy
Littlehampton	6.8	-	11	52	sunny
Lowestoft	7.4	-	10	50	sunny
Margate	X	-	10	50	sunny
Minehead	8.7	-	11	52	sunny
Morecambe	8.5	-	11	52	sunny
Newcastle	X	-	9	48	cloudy
Nottingham	0.1	-	9	48	cloudy
Penzance	10.5	-	11	52	sunny
Poole	6.2	-	12	54	sunny
Scarborough	3.1	.02	8	46	cloudy
Scilly Isles	10.7	-	11	52	sunny
Shanklin	5.9	-	12	54	sunny
Southend	0.3		10	50	cloudy
St. Ives	9.3		10	50	sunny
Stornoway	3.4		10	50	bright
Swanage	6.4	-	11	52	sunny
Teignmouth	9.0	-	12	54	sunny
Tenby	11.0	-	12	54	sunny
Torquay	9.1	-	13	55	sunny
Weymouth	6.8	-	13	55	sunny
Wick	1.6		10	50	cloudy
Worthing	5.9	-	12	54	sunny

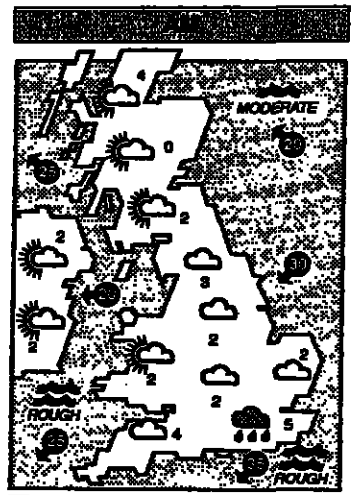
Sunday's figures are latest available.

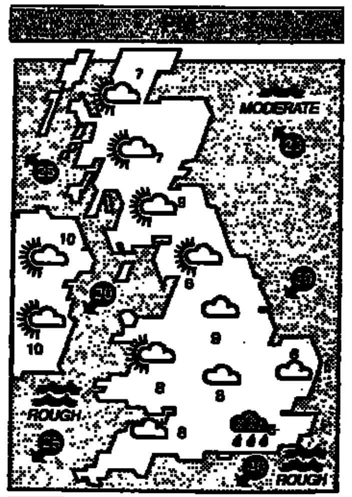
TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0898 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts, Glouсs, Avon, Soms.	705
Berks, Bucks, Oxon	706
Beds, Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops, Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness, Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 33p per minute (cheap rate) and 44p per minute at all other times.





YESTERDAY

Temperatures at midday yesterday: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

	C	F			C	F	
Belfast	9	48	s	Guernsey	9	48	f
B'rmghm	7	45	c	Inverness	11	52	s
Blackpool	9	48	c	Jersey	11	52	s
Bristol	10	50	s	London	9	48	f
Cardiff	10	50	s	M'nchster	9	48	f
Edinburgh	6	43	s	Newcastle	8	46	f
Glasgow	11	52	s	R'nldsway	8	46	s

Sun rises: 5.51 am
Sun sets: 6.23 pm
Moon sets 4.09 am
Moon rises 2.00 pm
Full moon March 30

LIGHTING-UP TIMES

London 6.23 pm to 5.49 am
Bristol 6.33 pm to 5.58 am
Edinburgh 6.38 pm to 5.58 am
Manchester 6.32 pm to 5.58 am
Penzance 6.44 pm to 6.11 am

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Sunday: Highest day temp: Cardiff and Torquay, 13C (55F); lowest day max: Tynemouth, Tyne and Wear, 7C (45F); highest rainfall: Aviemore, Highland, Hemsby, Norfolk and Scarborough, 0.02 in; highest sunshine: Colwyn Bay, Clwyd; and Tenby, Dyfed, 11 hr.

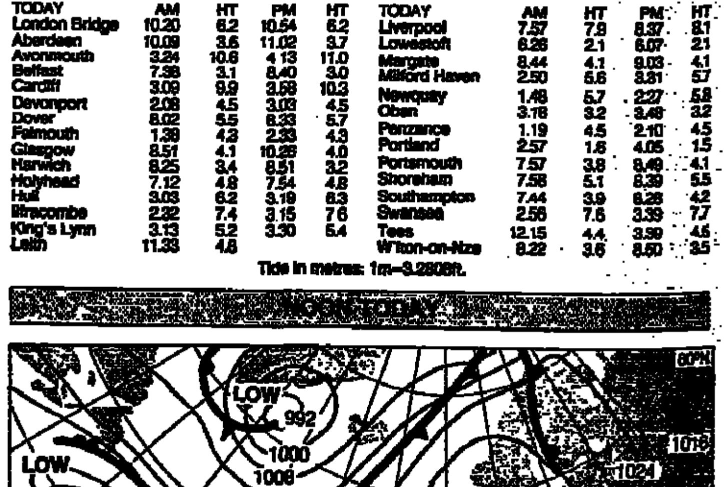
HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	10.20	6.2	10.54	6.2
Aberdeen	10.09	3.6	11.02	3.7
Avonmouth	3.24	10.6	4.13	11.0
Belfast	7.38	3.1	8.40	3.0
Cardiff	3.09	9.9	3.58	10.3
Devonport	2.08	4.5	3.03	4.5
Dover	8.02	5.5	8.33	5.7
Falmouth	1.39	4.3	2.33	4.3
Glasgow	8.51	4.1	10.28	4.0
Harwich	8.25	3.4	8.51	3.2
Holyhead	7.12	4.8	7.54	4.8
Hull	3.03	6.2	3.19	6.3
Ilfracombe	2.32	7.4	3.15	7.6
King's Lynn	3.13	5.2	3.30	5.4
Leith	11.33	4.8		

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Liverpool	7.57	7.9	8.37	8.1
Lowestoft	6.26	2.1	6.07	2.1
Margate	8.44	4.1	9.03	4.1
Milford Haven	2.50	5.6	3.31	5.7
Newquay	1.48	5.7	2.27	5.8
Oban	3.16	3.2	3.46	3.2
Penzance	1.19	4.5	2.10	4.5
Portland	2.57	1.6	4.05	1.5
Portsmouth	7.57	3.8	8.49	4.1
Shoreham	7.58	5.1	8.39	5.5
Southampton	7.44	3.9	8.28	4.2
Swansea	2.56	7.6	3.39	7.7
Tees	12.15	4.4	3.39	4.6
W'ton-on-Nze	8.22	3.6	8.50	3.5

Tide in metres: 1m=3.2808ft.

NOON TODAY



Information supplied by Met Office

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هكذا عن الاصل

THE TIMES

- BUSINESS AND FINANCE 23-29
- LAW 30-31
- SPORT 35-38

BUSINESS

Business Editor
John Bell

TUESDAY MARCH 26 1991

Clowes seriously ill in hospital

PETER Clowes, the former chief of Barlow Clowes, the collapsed financial services group, is seriously ill in hospital.

Mr Clowes, who has been charged with theft of £30 million from his clients, was rushed into hospital with severe intestinal problems. Ian Brown, his solicitor, at Burton Copeland Solicitors, confirmed Mr Clowes's condition as serious.

Mr Burton said: "Mr Clowes was feeling unwell for several days before seeing his doctor. He has been admitted to hospital with a serious intestinal problem and is poorly. Surgery is a possibility and he will remain in hospital for at least a month."

Mr Clowes, aged 49, of Whiteley Green, Adlington, near Macclesfield, Cheshire, was arrested in June 1988 after the collapse of his £190 million business empire.

Spring Ram up

Spring Ram, the kitchen and bathroom maker, has defied the recession with a 25 per cent rise in pre-tax profits to £30.1 million. The final dividend is 0.34p, to make 0.48p for the year, up 20 per cent. William Rooney, the chairman, said he was confident of another good year even if the economy fails to improve.

Tempus, page 25

Booker ahead

Booker, the food distribution and agricultural business that last year bought Fitch Lovell, the food group, via a £302 million agreed bid, saw profits rise from *£90.5 million* to £102.9 million last year. Earnings rose from 37.1p to 41.9p a share. A final dividend of 14p a share makes 21.25p (19.5p) for the year.

Tempus, page 25

Maxwell sells

Robert Maxwell's Pergamon Holdings has sold its 20.07 per cent stake in the ordinary share equity of Invesco MIM, the investment management group formerly known as Britannia Arrow and chaired by Lord Stevens of Ludgate. The International Stock Exchange was notified of Thursday's sale yesterday.

THE POUND

US dollar
1.7660 (−0.0233)

German mark
2.9466 (+0.0024)

Exchange index
92.2 (−0.4)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1930.5 (−13.5)

FT-SE 100
2431.9 (−8.6)

New York Dow Jones
2876.98 (+18.07)*

Tokyo Nikkei Avge
26645.79 (+32.60)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:	
Grand Met	794p (+22p)
Whitbread 'A'	483½p (+10p)
WPP	137½p (+12p)
FALLS:	
Park Foods	204p (−10p)
News Corp	336p (−12p)
J Smurfit	570p (−16p)
Spayhawk	121p (−9p)
Anglian Water	277p (−12p)
British Aerospace	611½p (−10p)
Lucas	150½p (−10p)
De La Rue	354p (−12p)
Bellway	273½p (−18p)
Steetley	364½p (−17p)
C&W	517½p (−11p)
Computer People	152½p (−17p)
Slough Estates	244½p (−11p)
Hammerson 'A'	635p (−18p)
British Land	291p (−14p)
Greycoat	362p (−12p)
BOC	552p (−11p)

Closing Prices...Page 27

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 12½%
3-month interbank 12 9/16-12 7/16%
3-month eligible bills: 11 23/32-11⅝%
US: Prime Rate 9%
Federal Funds 5 15/16%*
3-month Treasury Bills 5.88-5.87%*
30-year bonds 95 5/32-95 9/16*

CURRENCIES

London:	New York:
£: $1.7660	£: $1.7644*
£: DM2.9466	$: DM1.6705*
£: SwFr2.5197	$: SwFr1.4263*
£: FFr10.0069	$: FFr5.6710*
£: Yen244.15	$: Yen138.45*
£: Index:92.2	$: Index:65.2
ECU £0.697760	SDR £0.764806
£: ECU1.433157	£: SDR1.307521

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM $361.75 pm-$359.25
close $359.20-359.70 (£203.30-203.80)
New York:
Comex $360.35-360.85*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Apr) .... $18.90 bbl ($19.20)

RETAIL PRICES

RPI: 130.9 February (1985=100)
* Denotes latest trading price

* * * * * *

Trade worries despite sharp cut in deficit

By Colin Narbrough, Economics Correspondent

BRITAIN'S current account deficit narrowed sharply in February to £192 million, but the figures revealed that the underlying improvement in trade performance may be temporary.

Despite the prospect of the current account returning to monthly surpluses this spring, economists fear the economic recovery the government expects this year will bring back widening deficits, as imports are sucked in once again.

Concern about the trade figures offset the favourable news of the headline improvement in the current account as the market reassessed its view of the scope for further interest rate cuts.

After Friday's disappointing inflation figures, and opinion polls showing the Conservatives losing ground again, further easing is not expected until after Easter. The money market key lending rates rose a quarter point as hopes of a lower base rate dwindled.

The pound lost 2.5 cents against the dollar to end at $1.7660, but advanced almost a quarter of a pfennig to DM2.9466, having been close to its exchange-rate mechanism *central rate of DM2.95* at its best.

Although the current account deficit was less than half the level expected by the City, the improvement from January's £783 million shortfall was due to special factors unlikely to occur again in the months ahead.

The oil balance rebounded to a £171 million surplus from a £110 million deficit as North Sea production came back on stream, while re-exported precious stones boosted the "erratic items" balance to a £283 million surplus from a £23 million surplus in January.

Revisions of trade in "invisibles", such as banking, insurance and shipping, gave a £500 million surplus for the month, more than £200 million less than the monthly level in the final quarter last year. The lower figure takes account of distortions arising from the Gulf war.

The visible trade deficit was *cut to £692 million* from £1.28 billion in January, with exports almost unchanged at £8.35 billion. Imports fell 6 per cent to £9 billion.

Excluding oil and erratic items, however, the visible deficit narrowed only slightly to £1.14 billion, the lowest since February 1987, from £1.20 billion in January and £1.19 billion in December.

Gerard Lyons, chief economist at DKB International, said the figures disclosed "cyclical improvement and underlying *structural problems.*" The recession will deliver good current account figures, but there is "no hope of an export-led recovery".

Chris Dillow, UK economist at Nomura Research Institute, said signs that the domestic demand was bottoming out suggested that the billion-plus underlying monthly deficit was the "best we can do", as recovery would boost imports.

The deficit on manufactures was £241 million in February, the smallest since early 1987, reflecting a slight fall in exports and a £400 million drop in imports, as demand for consumer goods remained depressed. With world economic growth slowing and import export markets in recession, hopes of boosting exports appear to have evaporated.

Michael Saunders, economist at Salomon Brothers, noted that in the last three months, excluding oil and erratics, exports had fallen 2.5 per cent and were unchanged from the same period a year ago. *On the same basis,* imports were down 3.5 per cent in the latest three months and 3 per cent lower on the year.

The underlying trend for non-oil export volumes shows a slight decline in recent months, while imports have fallen since the middle of last year. The firmer pound is seen as a key factor in reducing the incentive to manufacturers to sell abroad.

Peter Spencer, economist at Shearson Lehman, predicted little progress on the visible trade *front until there* is improvement in British competitiveness.

Germany overtakes US as top exporter

UNIFICATION has made Germany the world's biggest exporter, overtaking America.

The strongly appreciating mark boosted the dollar value of German exports of visible goods last year to $420 billion, or $26 billion above the Americans, whose volume exports were benefiting from the weaker dollar.

In recent months, however, the traditional large surplus on west German trade has been eroded seriously by the redirection of goods towards the east German regional states, which have also sucked in imports on a large scale.

The annual report of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (Gatt), the world trade organisation, showed unification boosted German exports by $22.5 billion, or 1.5 per cent, last year.

Germany's export growth nevertheless paled when compared with America's 8.5 per cent. Japan held its third place, increasing exports by 4.5 per cent to $286 billion.

Gatt expects growth in world output and trade to slow in 1991, for the third year in a row, but foresees no global recession, despite uncertainties *arising from the Gulf.*

World trade rose in volume by 5 per cent last year, down from 7 per cent in 1989 and 8.5 per cent in 1988. In value terms trade increased 13 per cent to $13,500 billion.

Commercial and financial services, an area in which Gatt is seeking to liberalise trade, saw a 12 per cent advance to $770 billion. The report said the ceasefire in the Gulf and lower oil prices have improved this year's prospects, restoring confidence on leading stock markets that the slowdown in key economies would be short-lived.

Gatt added, however, that it was not yet clear whether recessions in Britain, America, Canada and Australia had bottomed out.

Official figures issued in Bonn showed that a record number of new firms were founded in west Germany last year, a development the government hopes will help speed up the modernisation of east Germany. More than 371,000 firms were founded last year, after 338,000 in 1989.

Concern about pay demands in east Germany prompted a warning in the economics ministry that east German workers must keep their wage demands moderate, *as sharp increases* would jeopardise jobs and reconstruction.

Saatchi reveals £5.2m loss

By Our City Staff

SAATCHI & Saatchi has revealed its first pre-tax loss and a collapse in revenues ahead of tomorrow's shareholders' meeting to approve refinancing plans.

The advertising agency lost *£5.2 million* in the last three months of 1990, compared to a £19.1 million profit a year earlier. Revenues fell 16 per cent to £175 million.

Saatchi is changing its year-end from September to December, so these figures are the first three months of a 15-month reporting period. They include redundancy costs of £5 million, and the group warned employees that job cuts would continue unless revenues improved.

"We will do whatever is necessary to control costs," a spokesman said. Saatchi's losses were reduced by a sale of part of its art collection, which raised a net £400,000 after the write-off of an unspecified investment.

In spite of the losses the group was forced to pay £3.5 million in tax on profits from some of its European agencies and on unrelieved losses from its American businesses.

The group's attributable loss was £14.6 million, against a £3.6 million deficit the year before. Revenue and profits were hit by the weakness of the dollar, the January sale of the American agency McCaffrey & McCall and the general downturn in advertising spending. Saatchi said trading in Britain, Australia and America had been difficult but the group was cutting costs.

Tomorrow its shareholders meet to vote on the group's refinancing and a £55 million rights issue. This has been organised to reschedule a £212 million euroconvertible bond.

Ordinary shareholders will see their stake in the company diluted to around 17 per cent. The vote needs a 75 per cent majority to be successful.

Comment, page 25

Standard plans return to Iran

By Neil Bennett, Banking Correspondent

STANDARD Chartered has a reputation for boldly banking where no bank has gone before.

The bank intends to extend its far-flung empire further, planning to open an office in Iran, 12 years after being thrown out during the revolution.

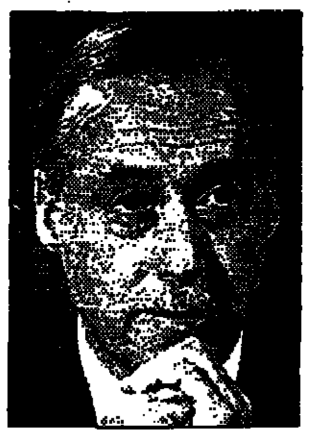
The straitened international banking group is considering a plan to open a representative office in Tehran, although the board has not made a final decision.

If Standard proceeds, it will be one of the first western commercial banks to return to Iran since 1979.

Standard, where Rodney Galpin is chairman and chief executive, has also applied for a banking licence in Kuwait in the hope that it can extend its branch network around the Gulf in the aftermath of the war. Foreign banks were barred from the emirate before the Iraqi invasion last August.

The move to Tehran follows Standard's return to Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam last year. There, one of Standard's executives has won attention for his insistence on wearing the traditional British banking dress, including bowler hat and rolled umbrella.

Standard was one of the largest foreign banks in Iran before the revolution. In 1959, it established the Irano-British Bank, which expanded into a network of 24 offices around the country. These were nationalised with all other foreign banks after the overthrow of the Shah, and many branches were burned to the ground.


Galpin: bold banking

Standard believes international relations with Iran have recovered enough to ensure that international trade will start to flow freely. The bank is likely to open the office with a single employee, who will promote Standard's trade finance services in Iran's business and political community. Lloyds, ANZ and Dresdner Bank already have representative offices in Tehran.

As part of the new policy, Standard is concentrating on its successful trade finance business rather than traditional lending and prefers to avoid taking principal risks wherever possible.

So the bank is unlikely to make any loans in the country.

☐ SG Warburg, the merchant bank, *has signed a co-operation* agreement with Phatra Thanakit, a leading investment bank in Thailand. The two banks will produce research on Thai companies and sell Thai securities to international investors.

The agreement with Thanakit strengthens Warburg's presence in the Far East. The bank already has offices in Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia and South Korea.

DENZIL McNEELANCE

Tough year of uncertainty: a glum Tony Gill at yesterday's announcement

Lucas to shed 800 jobs as profits fall

By Graham Searjeant
Financial Editor

LUCAS Industries is to cut another 800 jobs in its British motor component business over the next few months. The move adds to the *1,900* redundancies made in the past eight months in response to harsh conditions in the car and commercial vehicle markets.

The shortage of demand in virtually all markets except Germany depressed pre-tax profits at the motor and aircraft components group 31 per cent to £55.3 million in the six months to end-January.

Tony Gill, the chairman and chief executive, said the more profitable second half would also be difficult. "This is a tough year. Uncertainty is common to all our markets."

Bob Dale, head of the automotive division, where operating profits fell 23 per cent, said international markets had been worse in the first three months this year than in any quarter of last year.

Lucas will have shed about 14 per cent of its British automotive jobs in the year. About 1,000 jobs will also have gone in automotive businesses abroad. There will also be cuts in the group's aerospace business.

Gavin Laird, general secretary of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, blamed mismanagement of the economy for the spate of job losses.

Mr Gill stressed, however, that spending on research and development and investment would not be cut now, at the bottom of the cycle.

In the first six months, research and development, mainly geared to new contracts, rose 18 per cent to £54 million. Interest charges rose *by £4.6 million* to £13.5 million, reflecting higher investment. In the second half, however, Lucas will receive a one-off repayment of £90 million after tax from its pension fund. The strength of sterling hit profits by about £3.5 million in the first half.

The interim dividend stays at 2.1p, from earnings down 8.4p to 5.8p per share.

Bellway heads rights issue queue with call for £25m

By Michael Tate, City Editor

BELLWAY, the Newcastle housebuilder, heads what is expected to be a long queue of companies launching rights issues this week, with a £25 million cash call on their shareholders.

Then came Microvitec, which is seeking £2.56 million to help finance a hostile takeover bid for Logitek.

Kenneth Bell, chairman of Bellway, is offering five new shares for every 11 held, at 220p, a deep discount to last Friday's closing price of 292p. The shares closed 18p lower at 274p.

Mr Bell said that there were now "considerable opportunities to acquire land for residential development in favourable locations, and at attractive prices."

Bellway, which is heavily concentrated in the north of England, is particularly keen to increase its land bank round London, where prices have halved in the past two years. It believes the demand for new houses should improve as interest rates fall and as buyers' confidence returns.

Bellway said it was well placed to take advantage of the opportunities. Currently nil geared, Bellway has been prepared to allow borrowings to run up to 60 per cent of shareholders' funds when it felt it appropriate.

Details of the rights issue, which has been underwritten by Charterhouse Bank, accompanied interim results from Bellway showing a sharp fall in pre-tax profits from £6.11 million, to £3.36 million in the six months to end-January. The interim dividend is held at 4p, and a maintained total of 7p on the enlarged share capital is forecast. Bellway is forecasting pre-tax profits of not less than £8.75 million for the current year.

Microvitec, whose 33p a share bid was rejected by Logitek last night, is offering one share for every two held at 19p a share. The bid is conditional on Logitek not going ahead with its planned disposal of Azlan, a subsidiary.

Tempus, page 25

Northern plans cutback

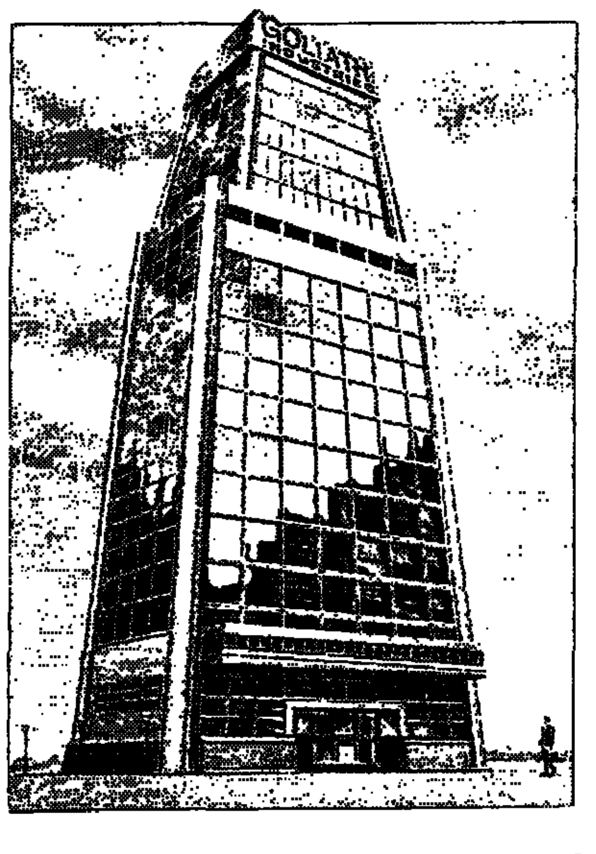
By Ross Tieman, Industrial Correspondent

NORTHERN Electric is to shed 500 jobs, almost a tenth of its labour force, over the next five years. The cutback, part of a drive to cut costs, includes a withdrawal from large project electrical contracting.

The cutback may set the tone for efficiency programmes at the other 11 regional electricity companies in England and Wales that were privatised last year.

Northern Electric said it hoped to achieve the cuts by natural wastage and redeployment of staff. The axe will fall hardest on the company's contracting company, where 100 of the 300 staff will lose their jobs.

Northern said in its flotation prospectus that the contracting business, which had a turnover of £12.3 million in the year to March 1990, would make a loss in the current year.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UniChem beats forecasts

UNICHEM, the pharmaceuticals distributor floated on the stock market last year, has comfortably beaten its prospectus forecast with pre-tax profits of £16.35 million for 1990, and earnings per share of 13.6p. Shareholders receive a single dividend of 1.5p a share.

In its November prospectus, UniChem forecast pre-tax profits of not less than £16 million and pro forma earnings of 13.3p a share.

Peter Dodd, the chief executive, said UniChem had achieved sales growth 1.5 per cent ahead of the average for the industry, and operating margins had improved from 2.0 to 2.2 per cent.

He added that the group had started the current year well, with sales continuing to show rises in the first two months of the year.

UniChem is waiting for approval from the German courts of the acquisition of a 17 per cent holding in PAG Pharma-Holding, holding company for 30 per cent of ANZAG, Germany's largest pharmaceutical wholesaler.

Take off for Scottish power

Scotland's two electricity companies are officially put up for sale today as the government launches its newest privatisation. Scottish-Power and Scottish Hydro-Electric, scheduled to join the International Stock Exchange in mid-June, are expected to be worth between £1.5 billion and £2 billion to the government.

Details of the sale will be revealed at the official launch in Edinburgh and London, although the advertising campaign promoting "public awareness" of the industry has been running since last year.

Era soars

Era Group, the consumer products business, reported taxable profits of £2.55 million (£631,000) and earnings of 2.44p (0.39p) a share for last year. There was a deficit attributable to shareholders of £3.53 million after the disposal of Lexterten Holdings. There is again no dividend.

Berisford sale

Berisford International, the commodities and property group, has completed the sale of Scotia Haven Food Group, a subsidiary, to Yorkshire Food Group for £11.1 million, of which £500,000 is being held back subject to a completion audit.

Testing time as Bayer and BASF profits fall sharply

By Wolfgang Münchau, European Business Correspondent

GERMANY'S chemical industry suffered severely last year, the two top companies reporting sharp falls in profits. Bayer and BASF were affected by the worldwide economic slowdown and the fall in the dollar and yen, which reduced translation profits.

Bayer, the country's largest chemical group, said the first three months of this year showed no sign of an early end to the downturn.

The company, otherwise known for its Bayer Leverkusen football club, reported an 18 per cent fall in pre-tax earnings to DM4.1 billion.

BASF announced an even sharper drop, of 37.3 per cent, to DM2.75 billion.

The fall underlines the increased financial squeeze on Germany's corporate sector, now bracing itself for a slowdown in the German economy.

Bayer said that in spite of increased demand for its products, sales were down because of adverse currency movements, which hit the value of sales by 6 per cent, and because of stronger competition, leading to an erosion of prices.

In Europe, where currency translation factors are insignificant, sales dropped by almost 2 per cent, while North American sales were down 6 per cent. Performance varied from one sector to another, with healthcare showing the greatest advance and industrial products the strongest fall, of 11.8 per cent.

BASF's profits fell from a record DM4.38 billion in 1989 back to 1987 levels. The company blamed "the recession in North America, the economic decline in Latin America and slackening growth in western Europe".

The Gulf conflict also hit the company hard as it led to higher oil and gas prices.

Chemical companies are among the largest consumers of energy: BASF's main Ludwigshafen plant consumes more energy than the whole of Czechoslovakia.

Like Bayer, BASF's profits were affected by the strong mark. Japanese sales rose by 10 per cent in local currency, but fell by 10 per cent in mark terms.

BASF has also had difficulties in its East European operations because of "a scarcity of foreign exchange and adaptation problems associated with the transition to a market economy".

This refers to problems of delayed payments from the Soviet Union, with which the company has an annual trading volume of about DM1 billion.

Sears forges joint link with French

By Gillian Bowditch

SEARS, which failed last week in its attempt to buy Grattan, the mail order arm of Next, is looking to the Continent for its expansion plans, establishing a joint venture with Groupe André, the French footwear and clothing retailer. Sears expects up to 20 per cent of its profits to come from continental Europe by 1995.

Sears and Groupe André are combining their businesses in Germany and the Benelux countries. Groupe André is contributing André Deutschland, the fourth largest footwear retailer in Germany with 110 outlets and sales of £60 million. Sears is putting in Hoogenbosch, the footwear market leader in the Netherlands with sales of £100 million.

Sears will get 50 per cent of the joint venture equity plus £30 million in cash and redeemable preference shares. The Dutch properties occupied by Hoogenbosch, and valued at £40 million, are to be retained by Sears and leased to the joint venture.

The deal will dilute Sears's earnings in the first year but should enhance them after that. Hoogenbosch made pre-tax profits of £6.9 million in the year to January 1990. André Deutschland made profits of £3.5 million.

Sears is talking to Groupe André about other possible joint ventures, including taking Olympus, the sportswear chain, and Adams, Sears' children's wear business, into France. The companies could also forge links in their fashion retail businesses.

Geoffrey Maitland Smith, Sears' chairman, said the two groups had decided against taking stakes in each other's businesses for the time being. He said the joint venture would provide Sears with a strong platform to expand. Last year, 7½ per cent of Sears' profits came from Europe.

DES JENSON

First lady: Faith Boardman heads the new tax team

Separate VAT office launched for the City

FAITH Boardman is one of the few people likely to welcome with open arms the government's decision, announced in last Tuesday's Budget, to raise value added tax to 17.5 per cent (Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor, writes).

Mrs Boardman is head of the 575-strong London central collection, one of the government's new executive units, charged with controlling VAT for the City. The office, which was launched yesterday, faces the heavier workload that the VAT increase will bring.

As Britain's only female VAT collector, she and her staff will now operate at arm's length from the customs and excise department as part of the government's "next steps" programme to break up Whitehall into agencies closely modelled on the private sector.

ECC falls to £100m despite cutbacks

By Michael Tate
City Editor

ECC Group, which claims to be the world's largest kaolin producer after buying Georgia Kaolin for £186 million last December, made less than £14 million profit in the final quarter of last year.

The former English China Clays reported pre-tax profits for the 15 months to end-December of £100.3 million, against the £86.4 million reported for the 12 months to end-September. In the 12 months to September 1989 the group made £150.6 million.

More instructive though is the recalculated pre-tax figure for the calendar year 1990, £73.3 million, compared with £136.7 million in calendar 1989.

On this basis, City analysts forecast that ECC should make about £95 million pre-tax profit this year and £130 million in 1992, excluding asset sales.

Shareholders will receive a final dividend of 4.9p, taking the total for the 15-month period to 24.5p. For the 12 months to September 1989 shareholders received a final dividend of 13p, making a total of 19.6p. Lord Chilver, the chairman, says the group is planning to maintain its dividend in 1991.

ECC, where Andrew Teare, the former head of Rugby Group, moved in as chief executive a year ago, is undergoing a big revitalisation programme. It has decided to wind down its housebuilding operations over the next three years.

It has already embarked on a fierce cost-cutting campaign, which includes a restructuring of staff and moving the headquarters to west London, near Heathrow.

Mr Teare says capital spending will be pared until conditions improve. He predicts disposals of non-core businesses will raise a further £100 million this year.

By the end of 1993 he expects to have realised cashflow of more than £200 million from house and land sales.

During the 15-month period to its new December year-end internal cashflow amounted to £192.4 million, and a further £175.4 million was raised through a preference issue and asset disposals. Net cashflow was £64.7 million. End-December borrowings were £246.5 million, and gearing was 34 per cent.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Geevor reverses into mining finance house

GEEVOR, the mining company, is reversing into European Mining Finance, whose shares are traded in Luxembourg, to form a London-listed mining finance house. EMF holds investments in small mining companies in North America with an emphasis on gold mining activities. The merger is to take place through an offer to EMF shareholders of 470 new Geevor 'A' shares for every 20 EMF shares held. The maximum number of new shares issued represents 38.2 per cent of Geevor's enlarged ordinary share capital. Geevor will change its name to EMF.

Geevor, which was thrown into turmoil when Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce called in its loans, is continuing legal action against the bank and has ammended its case to add claims for damages for misrepresentation and economic duress and a separate claim for exemplary damages.

Takeover deal spelled out

Telecomputing, the troubled computer software company, has announced terms of the already agreed reverse takeover by Gresham Computer Holdings, its private rival. Telecomputing is issuing new shares worth £3.35 million to Gresham, which will end up with 82 per cent of the share capital and intends to retain the USM quotation. The merger needs the approval of Telecomputing's shareholders.

Stora profits decline

STORA, the Swedish paper to kitchens conglomerate, reported a fall in pre-tax profits from Kr3.9 billion to Kr2.8 billion (£250 million) in 1990 due to weaker market conditions in most of its business areas. The results include an eight-month contribution of Feldmühle Nobel, the German paper group. Sales were up from Kr 42.3 billion to Kr62.4 billion. The dividend has been raised by Kr1 to Kr13.

P-E lifts payout 10%

P-E INTERNATIONAL, the management and computer consultancy, saw pre-tax profits fall 25 per cent to £4.21 million in 1990 after its interest charge rose from £13,000 to £207,000. Fee income rose 12.1 per cent to £65 million. A debit of £584,000 for restructuring the business led to a fall in earnings per share from 21.1p to 15p. The final dividend is 4.2p, making 6.2p for the year, a 10.7 per cent increase.

Net gearing was 6 per cent at the year end, while net cash fell from £1.72 million at the end of 1989 to £852,000 because the cash generated from operations was not sufficient to cover acquisitions made in 1990 and earlier.

Berlitz deal with Philips

PHILIPS, the Dutch electrical group, has formed a joint venture, with Maxwell Communication's Berlitz Publications, to produce self-teach language courses. The courses, packaged with a compact disc player developed by Philips and Sony, will be available from the end of 1991. The new joint company called Maxwell Multi Media will be based in Britain.

Woltz to split LIG roles

ALAN Woltz has confirmed that he is standing down from next month as the chief executive of London International Group, the healthcare products group. Mr Woltz will, however, continue as chairman. The new chief executive is to be Anthony Butterworth, who has been LIG's group managing director and chief operating officer for the past two years.

Bredero falls to £1.6m

BREDERO Properties, 49.5 per cent owned by Slough Estates, is cutting its dividend after pre-tax profits in 1990 dived to £1.6 million (£6.4 million). The final dividend is 1.2p a share (4.5p), making 2.4p (6.9p) for the year. Earnings per share plunged to 4.3p (19.2p). The company said the results reflected the severe worsening of the development markets.

Commercial profits have evaporated, at £239,000 (£5.2 million), after a £3.1 million provision for anticipated losses on certain properties.

Logitek rejects £6m share offer from Microvitec

By Martin Barrow

MICROVITEC, the computer peripherals maker, has announced the terms of its anticipated offer for Logitek, the highly-geared computer services company.

Microvitec's offer of three shares for every two Logitek shares values the company at £5.9 million, or 33p a share. There is no cash or partial cash alternative. Microvitec holds 8.4 per cent of Logitek, whose shares fell 2p to 26p after the offer, while Microvitec fell from 22p to 19½p. The takeover bid was rejected by Logitek.

The current terms are conditional on shareholders of Logitek voting against the proposed sale of Azlan, its distribution offshoot, to its management for £4.3 million. Should the buyout proceed against Microvitec's wishes, the offer will become a one-for-one all shares offer, with an aggregate value of £3.9 million.

Microvitec said the differential in offer values represented the board's valuation of Logitek without Azlan. Logitek shareholders will vote on the proposed disposal this Friday.

Microvitec also announced a one-for-two rights issue of new shares to raise £2.56 million. In the event of the offer for Logitek not being completed, Microvitec says the proceeds will be used to reduce borrowings and fund other acquisitions.

James Bailey, chairman and chief executive of Microvitec, said: "Logitek has the potential to be a strong company. If the disposal of Azlan is voted through this potential will be considerably diminished."

However, Jim Pickup, the chairman and chief executive of Logitek, said Microvitec's offer was "unacceptable" and urged shareholders to vote in favour of the Azlan sale at the extraordinary meeting on Friday.

Brent Chemicals advances to £13m

BRENT Chemicals International has demonstrated the resilience of the speciality chemicals industry during the recession by increasing pre-tax profits by £106,000 to £13 million last year.

Continental Europe has become Brent's most important marketplace, after the group spent £20 million on acquisitions in Germany and Denmark during the year. Sales of £37.1 million on the Continent, for the first time, outstripped the turnover in Britain, which was £33.5 million.

There is a final dividend of 5.8p a share, making 7.4p for the year, up 9 per cent.

During the year, Brent sold Reddish Savills, a detergent manufacturer, for £24 million. The disposal of Reddish and Brent's automotive pre-treatment plant produced £6.13 million extraordinary profits, as the group released a provision against its capital gains tax liability.

Former P&D man 'regrets Arrow buy'

By Angela Mackay

THE former head of equities at UBS Phillips & Drew told an Old Bailey jury his division bought 4.9 per cent of Blue Arrow's £837 million rights issue in the normal course of market-making.

Paul Neild told Robert Harman, QC, appearing for Christopher Stainforth, a former UBS corporate finance director, that, with hindsight, he wished "we had not done it".

County NatWest, the merchant bank, NatWest Investment Bank, its parent, UBS Phillips & Drew Securities, the stockbroker, and seven individuals have been charged with conspiracy to mislead the market over the issue which closed on September 28, 1987, and in the placing of remaining shares the next day.

Blue Arrow made the record rights issue to finance a takeover of Manpower, its US rival. All deny the charges.

Dr Neild said he did not believe the market was being misled, believing "it was quite normal for merchant banks and market-makers to take stakes in companies which were clients".

The trial continues today.

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PROFIT BEFORE TAX	22.7	14.7	+54%
EARNINGS PER SHARE	12.1p	9.4p	+29%

- PROFITS AHEAD OF FORECAST
- STRONG POSITION IN VALUE SECTOR
- BRAND SALES CONTINUE TO GROW
- LARGE INCREASE IN EXPORT SALES
- CONFIDENCE IN FUTURE PROSPECTS

THE RESULTS FOR 1989 WHICH WERE INCLUDED IN THE PROSPECTUS ISSUED IN APRIL 1990 HAVE BEEN DERIVED FROM FULL ACCOUNTS FOR THE THIRTEEN MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 1989 WHICH HAVE BEEN DELIVERED TO THE REGISTRAR OF COMPANIES AND ON WHICH THE AUDITORS GAVE AN UNQUALIFIED REPORT.

THE ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS WILL BE POSTED TO SHAREHOLDERS ON 8 APRIL 1991. COPIES WILL BE AVAILABLE FROM THAT DATE FROM THE COMPANY SECRETARY AT 21 SALAMANDER PLACE, LEITH, EDINBURGH EH6 7JL. TELEPHONE 031-554 4404.

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AIB VISA CARD RATE CHANGE

AIB Bank announces that its AIB Visa Card interest rate will change to 1.95% per month with effect from Wednesday 3rd April 1991

AIB

AIB Bank is the business name of Allied Irish Banks p.l.c., Incorporated in Ireland. Registered Office, Bankcentre, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4. Registered in Ireland, Number 24173. Member of IMRO

هكذا من الاصل

هكذا عن الاحوال

Lucas shows recession is no blip

Lucas Industries has improved its image so much in recent years that the stock market was surprised to find profits crumbling in the face of dire market conditions. That excessive optimism in the City is a tribute to the group's transformation since it posted a loss in the recession ten years ago.

Lucas has concentrated on high value added components and improved quality. The British market no longer dominates its business, the aerospace component business has grown strongly and the range of customers in both motor and aircraft businesses has been broadened and is still growing as a matter of policy.

In short, Lucas is a paradigm of the desirable changes in British manufacturing forced by the long slump of a decade ago: leaner, smarter and more up market. There is a message if groups such as Lucas are suffering and especially if, as is the case, the prospect of recovery some time in the future hinges solely on logic and not on any evidence yet available from its markets.

The missing link is the steady progress now being made in cutting interest rates. Since retail price inflation is now forecast to fall to 4 per cent by the fourth quarter of the year, the supposition is that interest rates should keep falling within short-term currency restraints to bring real interest rates down to a reasonable level.

There is, however, little reason to suppose that manufacturing companies will enjoy any quick recovery to previous levels of profit. True, the Chancellor forecast in his Budget that, once the tide turns in the summer, output will grow 2 per cent in the 12 months to the middle of 1992. The base period for that growth will, however, be much lower than thought a few months ago.

For companies, there should be some additional recovery in demand from America. But Lucas for one has already noticed the first signs, in terms of planned demand for components, that growth in Germany, which has been the saving grace for many exporters, is turning down.

COMMENT

Markets will not hang on monthly trade figures after this year's likly deficit was cut in half by a statistical revision. The least attractive part of the latest figures, however, is the total absence of growth in export volumes. They are, indeed, on a downtrend.

This new economic message is only beginning to come through to financial markets. Forecasts of Lucas' pre-tax profits for the year to end July are coming down sharply, with one reputable but overly sanguine analyst reducing his estimate from £165 million to £117 million against last year's £191 million.

Even in 1992-93, Lucas might recover only halfway back to its 1989-90 level without currency and interest rate help. No wonder its shares fell 10p to 151p yesterday, at which they still probably sell at more than 12 times likely earnings and rely on a pretty safe 6.2 per cent dividend yield.

British companies may be strong enough to look through to recovery. A slow recovery in demand in British and world markets may prove more durable. This recession, however, is not going to prove a mere blip.

Iron grip

The dismissal of six directors from Grandfield Rork Collins, Saatchi & Saatchi's financial public relations subsidiary, has revealed the iron grip the banks now have around the troubled advertising group. The departing six claim they were dismissed because they refused to sign two sets of financial guarantees. The first was that Saatchi's banks would have first call over Grandfield's income and assets if the group was declared insolvent. The second declared that Grandfield could remain solvent for at least a year if its parent goes under.

Saatchi's bankers have doubtless insisted on such assurances from Saatchi's loose-knit network of subsidiaries as conditions for maintaining their existing facilities and offering up to £30 million in additional loans.

Their demands are understandable given their considerable exposure to the group. They also demonstrate yet again the hazards of lending to a group which consists of people business, where healthy subsidiaries can disappear rather than being saleable assets if things go wrong.

Creditors of the subsidiaries would, conversely, be upset if they discovered their money had been diverted to Saatchi's bankers in the event of a liquidation.

Saatchi has been at some pains to stress that its troubles were mainly at the group level until the recent downturn in advertising spending. The reality can, however, never be quite like this, especially when any spare cash in subsidiaries is, quite naturally, transferred immediately to the group as an inter-company loan.

The incident demonstrates the vulnerability of people businesses. In losing six members of its middle-management Saatchi has also lost six profit centres. A substantial part of Grandfield's intangible assets and goodwill has walked out of the door and will soon re-open elsewhere in competition with its former owner.

On Wednesday, shareholders in Saatchi are likely to support the group's refinancing. But the group has a long struggle ahead to ensure these stringent guarantees are never called on, and the last thing it needs to do is alienate its staff.

I'm sorry, I'll add that up once more

DECEIVING the community with poor statistics is not usually a profitable long-term strategy. People can be fooled once, perhaps more often, but eventually they react.

The unreliable supplier will tend to lose customers, and the chairman who deceives investors is liable to find the shares of his company trading at a permanent discount to those of his competitors. Even the politician who fails to live up to his promises may fall.

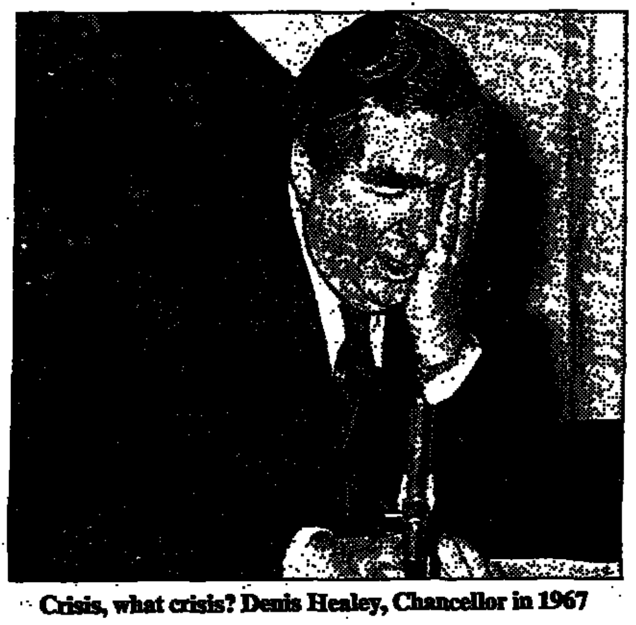
British economic statistics, however, have not provoked retribution despite consistently misleading the observer. If we judge by the way journalists write about statistics, the way politicians refer to them, or the way City analysts use them, economic data are viewed as paragons of reliability.

The reality is that just about every piece of information *published in the last 40 years* has been heavily revised at a later date — often to an extent that renders earlier estimates unrecognisable. The latest example of wholesale revisionism concerns the external trading position of the United Kingdom last year.

For most of the last 12 months, we were told the *country was chalking up huge* deficits that would debilitate the national balance sheet for years to come. Then, a couple of weeks ago, the numbers were changed. At a stroke, it emerged that a rapid improvement had occurred last year and that the final quarter had produced a position that was close to balance.

Instead of needing another 18 months of recession for the trade gap to be closed, we needed barely three!

It has to be admitted that reliable information in this area is difficult to collect. To understand the constraints under which the Central Statistical Office operates, we may note that if a tourist walks into Marks and Spencer and buys a sweater, his transaction has properly to be recorded as an invisible export. If, alternatively, the sweater were purchased by a resident, it would count as consumer's expenditure. One influences the "current account," the other does not. But how is *anyone to distinguish between* the two situations? The sales assistant does not ask to see the customer's passport, nor would any assessment based on race or accent be reliable.



Crisis, what crisis? Denis Healey, Chancellor in 1967

The only guide the authorities have is the information they get about foreign exchange transactions. If the customer were a tourist, he *may have changed his currency into sterling before his* visit or, if he had used a charge card, his subsequent payment would also show up in currency dealings. The authorities have then to distinguish between such "revenue" transactions and a much larger number that relate to "*investment*" activities.

Both categories are included in the overall balance of payments review, but only the former are relevant to the current balance. As a rule, the larger transactions may be deemed to relate to capital items, and the smaller ones to the revenue variety. But there is a grey area. Does a £10,000 *deal represent a private client's* modest purchase of British securities, or payment for a luxury holiday?

What we are forced to recognise is that the published data on invisible trade are going to be inaccurate. That does not mean, however, that the information is useless. Indeed, so long as the errors are fairly consistent, the numbers may be valuable. The anthropologist who travels to remote parts and encounters a strange tribe that *always* tells lies, has no difficulty in gleaning information from them if he takes their conventions into account. It is only if he is stupid or if the tribe only *sometimes* lies that he will make wrong decisions.

The parallel is apt. We have a mendacious CSO and it is only if the analyst is dim that serious deception can arise. When the authorities gave their depressing assessment of external trade last year, we should have nodded wisely and waited for the statisticians to review their estimates.

That is what the prescient analyst did in the alleged sterling crises of 1967 and 1974. As Denis Healey, Chancellor in 1967, would no doubt like to point out, while the deficit was calculated at 2.5 per cent of GNP at the time, the figure has since been revised to 1.25 per cent and the word crisis seems less applicable.

Certainly, the market strategist has almost invariably been correct if he bought securities when the rest of the community was losing its composure over the supposed seriousness of the economy's trading performance.

The sting in the tale is that, if everyone starts to perceive things correctly (and begin to *forecast CSO revisions*, for instance), the previously accurate forecaster will lose his edge. If, horror of horrors, the CSO should start to anticipate its own revisions, by upgrading its initial estimates, we would be thrown into confusion. Proposals that the CSO get higher appropriations in order that it can improve the quality of its data should be strangled at birth!

ROGER NIGHTINGALE
Independent analyst

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Unwarranted behaviour

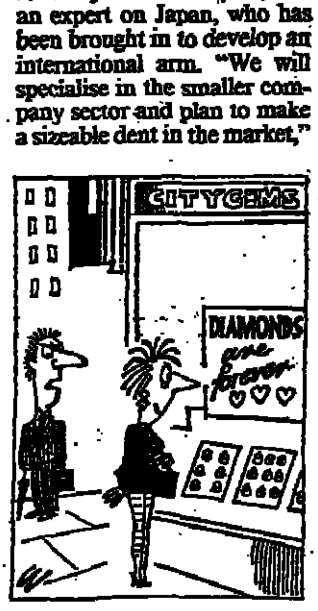
MORGAN Stanley has become the first victim of a purge that may rock the City to its foundations. The firm has admitted making 23 copies of *Warrants, Options and Convertibles*, a book by Quintin Price, media analyst at James Capel. Morgan has admitted giving a photocopy of the book to a potential client, thus saving on the £75 cover price, and making another 22 copies for its Japanese warrants desk. Now, embarrassed directors have handed a cheque for £4,030 in compensation to The Copyright Licensing Agency — more *than twice the amount it* would have cost using normal channels. The copies have also been handed over. "This is the first case of its kind," says Edward Barrow, licensing officer at CLA, who is keeping an eye out for other offenders. The publisher, IFR, has presented Price with a sizeable cheque to make up for the lost royalties, and he is now ready to buy his fellow analysts a celebratory drink. "We haven't noticed a great difference in his lifestyle," says an amused colleague.

Walker Rawson

IT IS tough being a company chairman. Jim Rawson of Epwin, the double-glazing supplier, went on a sponsored walk at the weekend to get in shape for his year-end results, published yesterday. He walked seven miles, helped raise £1,000 for a school, *visited 15 pubs en route*, and hurt his knee-cap. "I felt rather ill at the end," says the intrepid Rawson.

Rimell's return

THE lure of City dealing screens has proved too strong for Philip Rimell, founder of County NatWest Securities, who is back in the Square Mile after a three-year break. He has been appointed managing director of Durlacher West, a small agency broker set up last year by William West and Peter Durlacher, whose grandfather, Frederick, founded Wedd Durlacher. Rimell, aged 53, is joined by Colin Ring, formerly of Sassoon (UK) and an expert on Japan, who has been brought in to develop an international arm. "We will specialise in the smaller company sector and plan to make a sizeable dent in the market," says Rimell, who was introduced to his new post by Stephenson Cobbold, the firm of headhunters. Having built up County's stockbroking arm from scratch — and doing the same before that as managing director of WICO, the overseas division of WI Carr, — Rimell is looking to recruit another 30 employees, hence doubling the size of the venture.



'Let us try to keep down the trade figures, Fiona'

THE Lloyd's market enjoyed a rare flurry of activity on Friday when Margaret Thatcher dropped in for a surprise visit. John Wetherell, an underwriter, was particularly pleased when the former prime minister sat down in his box — and stayed for 35 minutes. "We had brokers queuing up for ages," said a delighted underwriter.

Ling on board

PHILIP Ling has notched up his third non-executive directorship by joining the board of P-E International, Britain's oldest management consultant. Ling, chairman of Haden MacLellan Holdings, the transatlantic engineering group, first caught the eye of City corporate financiers in 1985 when he joined Haden from London & Midland Securities. In response to a hostile takeover bid by Trafalgar House, he led a successful £60 million management buyout of Haden, and went on to mastermind a string of similar deals. "I'm not a collector of directorships," says Ling, aged 44, who began his career with Johnson & Firth Brown in 1973. "My work with P-E will give me a window on how companies work." Just back from a heli-skiing adventure in the Canadian Rockies, Ling also sits on the boards of Ibstock Johnsen and Fitch RS.

SLOGAN seen on the side of a pest-control company van in Sherborne, Dorset: "No ifs, ants or bugs."

Earth mothers

CITY people tired of the morning slog to work can take heart. From next month, they can travel to work by air-conditioned minibus, stocked with telephones and fax machines. Earthline, the new shuttle service, has been set up by Giovanni Imperiali, a former futures dealer at Pru-Bache, and Gregory Lee, a former marketing executive at Olivetti. For an average cost of £10 a day, City slickers will be able to take their place in a luxurious 16-seater Mercedes Benz minibus, watch live CNN news reports — or listen to classical music if they prefer — and be handed the morning newspapers by hostesses, supplied by a top modelling agency. "Customers who expect typical boring attendants will be in for a surprise," says Imperiali, aged 28, who is casting his eye over likely applicants. From April 29, the sleek buses will ply a route between Paddington and Waterloo and the Square Mile, and new destinations will be added later.

JON ASHWORTH

Booker faces a challenge

TEMPUS

AFTER paying £302 million *for Fitch Lovell last year* Booker said it really only wanted half of the business and would consequently be staging several disposals to reduce gearing from 170 per cent of shareholders' funds to more manageable levels.

Less than four months into the job, Booker is having second thoughts. Although almost £28 million was raised from the disposal of three former Fitch subsidiaries, reducing gearing to 112 per cent at year-end, Booker now argues that the remaining *businesses make a better fit* than originally expected.

That may well be the case, although the disappointing prices being offered for unwanted parts of Fitch will undoubtedly have played a big role in altering the management line.

But, if no further large disposals are imminent the only way gearing and a hefty interest charge can be reduced is by substantially improving margins in each of Booker's wide-ranging divisions. That *poses quite a challenge.*

Profits rose 14 per cent last year to £102.9 million and earnings 13 per cent to 41.9p. A final dividend of 14p makes a total 21.25p, up from 19.5p.

Growth owed much to creditable increases of 25 per cent in food distribution profits *and a 19 per cent advance in* health products. Profits should show a further increase to about £130 million this year, but the full impact of Fitch Lovell will restrict earnings growth to less than 43p, leaving the shares on a prospective price/earnings of 10.8p. At 465p the shares are high enough.

Bellway

WHEN, in as many days, three housebuilders tap their shareholders for cash, it seems plain that an end to the recession is in sight. And even if that end remains some way off, it begins to look as though it may be hard in future to better some of the land prices avaliable now.

Bellway, whose strength has always been the concentration of its operations in and around its Newcastle heartland, has been tempted by land values in London's commuter belt that have fallen to half what they were, and sees a perfect opportunity to improve the company's geographical balance.

Still ungeared, thanks to last *year's preference issue*, Bellway is in a strong enough position to launch a substantial buying programme, and could emerge in the Nineties as a powerful national player.

The issue terms, indicating a 265p ex-rights price and a 9p discount to last night's close, were well received, despite being more than 17 times projected earnings for the current year. The board's forecast of £8.75 million pre-tax looks as conservative as its financial management, and something over £9 million is expected by close followers.

Depending on how fast the new land can be transformed into houses, and how fast interest rates come down, profits could begin to motor in 1992.

Spring Ram

SOMEONE forgot to invite Spring Ram to the recession. The kitchen and bathroom manufacturer should have been a leading victim of the downturn, since its sales depend on the home improvement market.

The company's figures for *the year to January 4 defy* conventional wisdom. Turnover increased a fifth, to £145 million, to produce a 25 per cent rise in the profit before tax to £30.1 million, despite a £970,000 write-off of customers' bad debts.

Spring Ram's astonishing success is founded on its manufacturing skills, won through 11 years of organic growth and coupled with relentless innovation and investment. The company has never increased the prices of its 230 products, while it delivers weeks faster than some competitors. The reward was a rise in market share of nearly 30 per cent last year.

There is a price for this *growth and part of it is* shouldered by investors. Spring Ram's dividend for 1990 is a paltry 0.48p, covered almost 23 times by earnings. A more reasonable 4.3p payout, with a cover of three times, would drain £5.7 million from cashflow. The shares, at 194p, carry a yield of 0.3 per cent.

Spring Ram is capable of making £39 million this year, putting the shares on a price-earnings ratio of 14. The price reflects the company's quality, but investors seeking income should look elsewhere.

British Gas Advises Customers of Amendments to the Contract Pricing Schedules

SCHEDULES FI2, FI3 AND FI4 ADDENDUM 1st APRIL 1991

1. For firm contracts entered into under Schedules FI2, FI3 and FI4 the following addendum will apply:-
The existing termination and reconciliation arrangements will continue to apply save that at the written request of the customer the contract may be terminated subject to its being demonstrated that the customer is immediately substituting the supply under that contract with a gas supply from an alternative supplier from the date of termination. In those circumstances the customer's contract with British Gas shall be reconciled on the basis of the customer's consumption for that supply at the premises over the period of twelve months ending on the date of termination.

2. For interruptible contracts entered into under Schedule FI4 on or after 1st April 1991 the following addendum will apply:-
Under the section headed – "(ii) Optional Terms at Customer Choice for an Interruptible Contract" – the indices under the columns headed "Short Period" and "Medium Period" will be amended to "100% HFO."

3. For firm and interruptible contracts entered into under Schedule FI4 on or after 1st April 1991, General Note 4 "Index–Linked Contracts" will be amended as follows:–
Index-Linked Contracts
(a) The Reference for indices will be:
Gas Oil/Heavy Fuel Oil:Platt's Oilgram PPI: HM Central Statistical Office Digest
British Gas will, on a monthly basis for interruptible contracts and three monthly for firm contracts, notify customers with index-linked contracts of the variations in the value of these indices.
(b) Customers entering into index-linked interruptible contracts under this Schedule FI4 may select one of the following top and bottom stop pricing options:-
Option 1
Top Stop:- the top stop price for 1 and 2 year contracts will be 25% and 35% respectively above the Initial Contract Price, subject to an overall maximum of 5% above the single premises price in volume band 1 at the start of the contract.
Bottom *Stop:- the bottom stop price will be 5% below the single premises price in volume band 8 at the start of the* contract.
Option 2
Top Stop:- the top stop price will be 10% above the price for the customer's nominated volume band under the Schedule prevailing at the time of supply subject to an overall maximum of 5% above the single premises price in volume band 1 at the start of the contract.
Bottom Stop:- the bottom stop price will be 5% below the single premises price in volume band 8 at the start of the contract.
Option 3
Top Stop:- the top stop price will be 5% above the price for the Customer's nominated volume band under the Schedule prevailing at the time of supply.
Bottom Stop:- the bottom stop will be 5% below the price for the Customer's nominated volume band under the Schedule prevailing at the time of supply.

SCHEDULE ST2 ADDENDUM 1st APRIL 1991

1. With effect from 1st April 1991 the Schedule ST2 is withdrawn Existing contracts entered into under Schedule ST2 will continue in force until expiry or earlier termination in accordance with the terms of the contract.

Copies of the Schedules and conditions of contract are available from the
Registered and Regional Head Offices of British Gas.

British Gas

British Gas plc, Registered Office, Rivermill House, 152 Grosvenor Road, London SW1V 3JL. Registered in England under Number 2006000

Invergordon beats its forecast with £22m

By *Our City Staff*

INVERGORDON Distillers Group, which supplies many of the retailers with their own-label whiskies, has beaten the profit forecast it made a year ago during the run-up to its stock market flotation.

Pre-tax profits for 1990 have emerged at £22.7 million, against the £21 million predicted by Charles Craig, the chairman. The final dividend is 3p a share, making 5p for the year, which is line with expectations, and is covered by earnings of 12.1p a share. There is also a £1 million extraordinary profit, from the sale of the Deanston distillery.

Mr Craig, who will retire after the annual meeting on May 2, to be succeeded by James Millar, the current deputy chairman, said the group's own-label business and its brand sales, particularly in the high-margin premium sector, augmented by the acquisition of the Findlater brands, have continued to grow.

Chris Greig, the managing director, said group whisky sales increased modestly in volume, against a slight reduction for the industry. Direct exports surged in value by over a third, double the industry rate, while sales of new fillings from the distilleries were higher, increasing the ratio of the group's whiskies destined for overseas.

Sales of white spirit, the base for gin and vodka, also rose. Dr Greig added that the new distillery under construction at Greenwich, in London, in a joint venture with Tunnel Refineries, would be in production by the end of 1992.

STOCK MARKET

Water shares take a dive on renationalisation fears

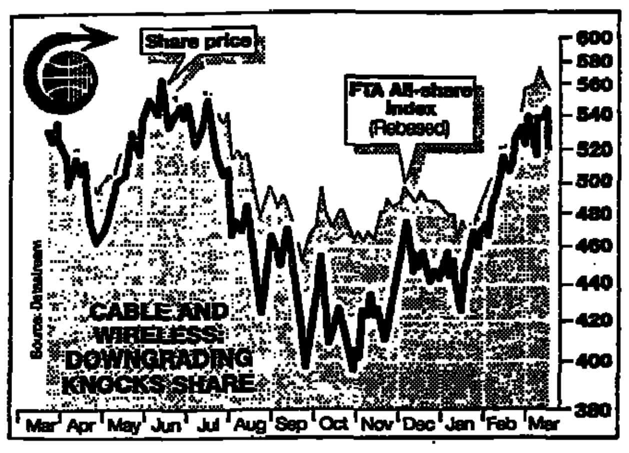
OPINION polls showing the Conservatives lagging behind Labour by about six points upset the water shares. Some investors fear that a Labour government would renationalise water companies. Others say the weakness stemmed from apprehension that John Major's government will regulate utilities more aggressively than the Thatcher government.

Anglian ended 12p lower to 277p, **Northumbrian** 11p to 304p, **North West** 13p to 283p, **Severn Trent** 2p to 270p, **Southern Water** 9p to 256p, **South West** 5p to 296p, **Thames** 9p to 282p, **Welsh** 6p to 329p and **Wessex** down 1p to 358p. Against the trend, **Yorkshire** gained 2p to 313p. The water package lost £70 to £2,880.

The electricity generators dimmed a little further, although the underlying tone is very firm. **National Power** slipped 3½p to 128p and **PowerGen** showed a 4½p deficit to 126p. The electricity package lost £25 to £1,815.

News that Britain's trade gap shrank to £192 million last month, reflecting optimism for the battle against imports and providing further hope in the markets for another rate cut, did little to lift shares.

They did, however, stage a rally, helped by a positive start on Wall Street, which was showing strong gains in early trading. The FT-SE 100 index clawed back from its lows to close 8.6 lower at 2,431.9, recovering from a22.8 point deficit. The FT index of 30 shares fell 13.5 to 1,930.5.



Volume was only 408.6 million shares.

Gilts drifted further to be £¾ lower on the day, ignoring any help from the smaller current account deficit.

Cable and Wireless lost 11p to 518p, after UBS Phillips & Drew, which is a seller of the stock, cut its current year forecast from £590 million to £580 *million*. The broker has trimmed its numbers for Mercury and is also concerned about slower underlying growth in Britain.

Dr James Dodd, at Kleinwort Benson, is concerned about the effects on C&W of equal access and international telephone calls. He thinks the payback to shareholders will be delayed, although he views the shares as a hold. **British Telecom** eased 3p to 345p, while **Racal Electronics** climbed 4p to 215p and **Racal Telecom** firmed 8p to 358p.

Whitbread A rose 10p to 484p, after Peter Jarvis, chief *executive*, issued a *statement*, apparently forced on it by the International Stock Exchange, on the recent talk of a brewery merger with Allied-Lyons. He said during the past 12 months, Whitbread has been involved "in informal discussions with a number of brewers about possible cooperation in the UK beer market," but stressed "nothing material has emerged from these talks." **Allied-Lyons** lost 8p to 511p.

Savills, the estate agent and property surveyor, which has attracted comment over directors' share sales, saw a further 500,000 shares sold, at 56½p, by Emma Sanderson, the wife of *Charles Sanderson, a director. In January, the company passed* its interim dividend after falling to a pre-tax loss of £433,000 (£2.9 million profit) for the six months to end-October, and trading conditions remain depressed. The shares lost 7p to 53p.

A strong dollar helped dollar earners, with **ICI** 22p higher at 1023p, while **Grand Metropolitan**, which has recently introduced an ADR listing, jumped 22p to 794p.

The market was worried by *the steadily lengthening* list of companies coming to the market for cash. **Bellway**, the housebuilder, dipped 18p to 274p, after it unveiled a deeply-discounted rights issue, at 220p, to raise £25 million along with a 44 per cent decline in half year profits.

Speculators looking for future rights issue candidates pushed **P&O**, whose results are due today, 11p lower to 591p. **Steetley**, the building materials group due to report full-year figures today, lost 17p to 365p amid noises that it may be thinking of making a rights issue.

Properties were subdued after a recent survey showing a 13 per cent decline in the London office rental market since August, which encouraged brokers to turn bearish. **Hammerson A** were 18p lower at 635p, **British Land** lost 14p to 291p. **Slough Estates** lost a further 12p to 244p, amid market speculation that its full-year figures, due tomorrow, may be accompanied by a rights issue.

PHILIP PANGALOS

London Traded Options have been held out because of pressure on space

Cathay Pacific drops to £215m

From Lulu Yu
IN HONG KONG

CATHAY Pacific Airways, Hong Kong's flag-carrier, suffered a 9.8 per cent drop in net profits to HK$3 billion (£215 million) for the year to end-December, amid a wide range of market forecasts.

The decline in earnings was Cathay's first since it went public in 1986. The airline had reported an average profit growth of 45 per cent a year since 1985.

David Gledhill, the chairman, blamed reduced air traffic, rising fuel and operation costs and high inflation.

He said this year would be "an extremely difficult year for the airline industry worldwide" and that it was difficult to be optimistic about Cathay's 1991 earnings.

Operating profit in 1990 fell 8.1 per cent to HK$3.62 billion for 1990, on turnover up 14.7 per cent to HK$19.8 billion. Earnings per share dropped 9.8 per cent to 104.6 cents.

Capacity rose 14.2 per cent after five more aircraft were acquired but the average load factor — the proportion of passengers and cargoes per available seat or space — declined to 74.3 per cent, compared with 75.6 per cent in 1989.

Cathay, which is 50.2 per cent owned by Swire Pacific, plans a final dividend of 31.5 cents per share, making a total dividend of 42 cents for the year, the same as in 1989.

Mr Gledhill said: "In addition to the effects of the global business slowdown first felt in the early part of 1990, there are the residual effects of the Middle East conflict. It is impossible to predict with any certainty how these factors will affect Cathay Pacific, other than to say that they have created a negative business environment."

As a result of a softening of the travellers' market, particularly in Europe, Cathay's passenger load factor dropped 1.7 percentage points to 75.9 per cent. Passenger revenues increased 13.4 per cent to HK$15.8 billion.

The cargo and mail-load factor fell one percentage point to 64 per cent despite increased demand for cargo in the second half. Cargo revenues rose 14.7 per cent to HK$3.13 billion.

Net borrowings amounted to HK$3.34 billion, up 53 per cent from 1989 because of heavy spending on the additional aircraft.

The weakening of the Hong Kong dollar, which is pegged to the American dollar, inflated borrowings when expressed in the local currency. Long-term unrealised exchange losses on foreign currency financing soared to HK$3.09 billion from HK$2.73 billion in 1989.

Mr Gledhill said the airline would be cautious in expanding its routes. A weekly service to Johannesburg will be launched in July, and a route to Vietnam is planned for the second half of this year.

Cathay has outstanding commitments to acquire ten Boeing jumbo jets and ten Airbuses, plus options for a further 15 Boeing 747-400s and 14 Airbus A330-300s.

WALL STREET

New York

SHARES made mild gains in early trading with the Dow Jones industrial average rising 11.88 points to 2,870.79. Advancing shares took a five-to-three lead over declining shares. Analysts said that shares closed on Friday on an upswing, and that momentum had carried them higher yesterday morning. The firmer dollar also contributed. *(Reuter)*

	Mar 25 midday	Mar 22 close		Mar 25 midday	Mar 22 close		Mar 25 midday	Mar 22 close
Abbott Lab	48%	47%	Enron	57%	56%	Oryx Enrgy	34%	35%
Aetna Life	45	44%	Energy	24%	24	Pac Ent	36	36%
Ahmanson	17%	17	Ethyl	29%	29%	Pac Gas Elec	25%	25%
Air Prods	68	67%	Exxon	58%	57%	Pac Telesis	42%	42%
Albertsons	43%	41%	Fed NMA	43%	42%	Paccar	41	40%
Alcan Al	22%	22%	Fedrl Expre	35%	35%	Pacificorp	22%	22%
Alco Stand	32%	32%	Fh Nonster	16	15%	PaB	32%	31%
Allied Signal	28%	28%	Fluor	46%	48%	Paramount	38%	39%
Alumin CA	66%	65%	FMC	36%	36%	Parker-Hanfn	24%	24%
Am Brands	45%	46	Ford Motor	33	32%	Penney	52%	51%
Am Cyanamd	53%	53%	FPL	30%	29%	Pennzoil	73%	72%
Am EPC	28%	28%	Fst Chicago	21	20%	Pepsico	32%	32%
Am General	38%	37%	Fst Intrste	30%	29%	Pfizer	104%	104
Am Home	58%	58%	Fst Union	20%	20%	Phlps Pet	28%	28%
Am Intl	92%	90%	Gannett	42%	42	Philips Elec	19%	19%
Am Medical	5%	5%	Gen Cinema	22%	22%	Philp Morris	68%	66%
Am Stores	84%	84%	Gen Elec	67%	66%	Phlps Dodge	66%	65%
Amax	25%	25%	Gen Mills	57%	56%	Pitney Bow	49%	49%
Amer Hess	47%	47%	Gen Motors	37%	37%	Pier One	13%	14%
Amertech	67%	67%	Gen RE	85	82%	PNC Fncl	30%	29%
Amex	28%	27%	Gen Signal	40%	40	Pnhdle Estn	14%	14%
Amoco	54%	54	Genentech	25	24%	Polaroid	24	24%
AMP	52%	51%	Genuine Pts	40%	40	PPG Inds	48%	47%
AMR	55%	56	Georgia-Pac	42%	43%	Prctr Gmble	82%	82%
Anheuser-B	51%	50%	Gillette	74	72	Price	45	45
Apple Comp	64%	63%	Goodrich	38%	36%	Primerica	30%	29%
Archer-Dan	21%	21%	Goodyear	21%	22%	Pub Service	27	27
Arkla	18%	19	Grace	30%	30%	Quaker Oats	57%	57%
Armstrong	28%	27%	Greyhound	31%	31%	Ralston Pur	58%	56%
Asarco	28%	28%	Gt Atlantic	54	53	Raychem	28%	28%
Ashland Oil	31%	31%	Gt Western	17%	17	Raytheon	82	81
AT&T	33	33	GTE	31%	31%	Reebok	23	22%
Atlan Richfld	132%	133%	Halliburtn	48%	48%	Roadway	47%	47%
Auto DP	60%	60%	Heinz	39%	38%	Rockwell	27%	27
Avery Intl	24	23%	Hercules	40%	40%	Rohm Haas	46%	46%
Avon Prod	42%	41%	Hershey Fd	41%	40%	Royal Dutch	78%	79
Baltimore	29%	28%	Hewlett Pkd	47%	47%	Rubbermaid	50%	49%
Banc One	33%	33%	Hilton Htl	40%	40	Rynlds Mtl	59%	58%
Bankamerica	34%	33%	Home Depot	51%	51	Safeco	38%	37%
Bard	24%	28%	Homestake	16	16%	Salomon	27%	27%
Barnett Bk	22%	21%	Honeywell	58	58%	Sant Fe Pac	7%	7%
Bausch Lmb	80%	79%	Houston Ind	36	35%	Sara Lee	39%	39
Baxter Intl	33%	32%	Hsehld Intl	44%	43%	Schecorp	39%	38%
Bec Dickn	75%	75	Humana	49%	49%	Schlumbgr	59	58%
Bell Atlan	50%	50	IBM	113%	111%	Schrg-Plgh	48%	48
Bellsouth	54	53	IF&F	78%	78%	Scott Papr	38%	39
Bkr Hughes	27%	28%	Illinois TW	54%	54%	Seagram	93%	93%
Black Decker	13%	13%	Inco	31%	31	Sears Rbk	34%	32%
Block	50%	50%	Ingsol-Rand	44%	43%	Secrty Pac	23%	23%
Bnkrs Tst NY	42%	41%	Inland Steel	21%	21%	Shrwn-Wilms	44%	43%
Boeing	47%	47%	Intel	43%	43%	Skyline	16%	16%
Boise Casc	25	24%	Intl Paper	68%	69%	Snap-on Tls	32%	31%
Borden	34%	34%	ITT	54%	54%	Southern	28%	28
Brist-Myer	77	76%	James River	26	25%	St Paul	68	67%
Browng-Fer	25%	25%	Johnsn Jhsn	94	91%	Stanley Wk	35%	35%
Burl Nth	28	28%	K Mart	40%	40	Stone Cntr	13%	13%
CAI	8%	8%	Kellogg	92%	92%	Sun Co	32%	33
Campbell Sp	79%	80%	Kerr-McGee	42%	42%	Suntst Bk	27%	27%
Cap Cities	468%	469%	Kimbly-Clrk	86%	86%	Super Valu	27%	27%
Capital HC	47%	47%	Knight-Riddr	51	50	SW Bell	54%	54%
Carolina	47%	47%	Lilly	76%	75%	Syntex	76%	76%
Caterpillar	49	48%	Limited	25%	25%	Sysco	35%	35%
CBS	168%	169	Lin Brdcstg	82%	81%	Tandem	13	12%
Central SW	45%	44%	Lincln Nat	51%	50%	Tandy	30%	31
Champion	26	25%	Litton Ind	82%	82%	Tele-comm	15%	15%
Chase Man	14%	13%	Lockheed	41%	41%	Teledyne	21%	22
Chem Bnkg	16	15%	Louis-Pac	30%	30%	Temple-In	37%	37
Chevron	76%	76	Manu Hano	23%	24	Tenneco	43%	44
Chrysler	14%	14%	Marriott	16%	16%	Texaco	65%	64%
Chubb	68%	67%	Marsh Mclen	80%	79%	Texas Inst	37%	37%
Cigna	47%	46%	Martin Mar	55%	54%	Texas Util	36%	36%
Citicorp	14%	14	Masco	22%	22%	Textron	31%	31%
Clbrne Liz	44%	44%	May Dept	51%	49%	Time Wrnr	103%	104
Clorox	38%	39%	Maytag	14%	14%	Times Mirr	28%	28%
Cmwlth Edis	39%	40	McDnl Doug	37%	37	Timken	25%	25
CNA Fincl	86	83%	McDonalds	33%	33%	Torchmark	54%	58%
Coastal	32%	32%	McGraw-Hill	58	57%	Toys R Us	25%	25%
Coca-Cola	53%	54	MCI Com	26%	25%	Transam	36%	35%
Colgate-Pal	75%	75%	Mead	29	29%	Travelers	23	22%
Columb Gas	44%	44%	Medtronic	113%	112	Tribune	41%	41%
Compaq	61%	59%	Mellon Bk	28%	28	TRW	38%	39%
Conagra	43%	43	Melville	50%	50	Tyco Lab	46%	46
Cons Edis	25%	25%	Merck	104%	103%	UAL	142%	140%
Cons NG	41%	40%	Merll Lynch	33%	32%	Un Camp	39%	39%
Cons Rail	46%	46%	MM&M	87%	87%	Un Carbide	17%	17%
Cooper Ind	46%	45%	Mobil	65%	64%	Un Pacific	72%	71%
Corning	60%	60%	Monsanto	57%	55%	Unilever	84%	84%
CPC Intl	82	82	Moore	24%	24%	Unisys	5%	5%
Crown Cork	62%	61%	Morgan	45%	45	Unocal	28%	26%
CSX	36%	36%	Motorola	57	57%	Upjohn	46%	47
Dana	28%	28%	Nat Medical	48	47%	US West	39%	39%
Dayton-Hud	66%	67%	Nat Semi	7	7%	Usair Gp	19%	19%
Deere	49%	50%	Nat Service	25%	25%	USF&G	9%	9%
Delta Air	70%	70	Navistar	4	4	US Life	38%	37%
Deluxe	38%	38%	NCNB	30%	29%	UST	43%	43%
Detroit Ed	29	28%	NCR	100%	96%	USX	30%	30%
Digital Eq	66%	69%	NED Bncp	39%	39%	Utd Tech	47%	47
Dillard	101%	101%	Newmnt Min	36%	36	Utd Telcm	24%	24
Disney	116%	118%	Niagr Mhwk	14%	14%	VF	24%	24
Dominion	47%	47	Nike	45	44%	Wal-Mart	37%	37%
Donnelley	47	47	NL Indstrs	13%	13	Waste Mgmt	37%	37%
Dover	40%	39%	Nordstorm	35	33%	Wells Fargo	71%	70%
Dow Chem	48%	47%	Norflk Sthn	44%	44	Westg Elec	29	28%
Dow Jones	24%	24%	Norwest	24%	24%	Weyerhsr	23%	22%
Dresser Ind	24%	24%	Nthn St Pwr	35%	35%	Whirlpool	27%	28%
Du Pont	36%	36%	Nthn Telcm	30%	30%	Whitman	25%	25%
Duke Pwr	29%	28%	NY Times	22	21%	Winn-Dixie	37%	36%
Dun Bradst	47%	46%	Nynex	72%	72	Woolworth	31%	30%
East Kodak	42%	43%	Occid Petrl	18%	18%	Wrigley	58%	57%
Eaton	58	57%	Ohio Ed	18%	18%	Wrner-Lamb	74%	73
Emerson El	44%	43%	Oracle Sys	8%	9	Xerox	54%	53%

FT-SE 100 VOLUMES

	Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000		Vol '000
Abbey Nat	3,059	Cadbury	1,388	L&G	780	Royal Bnk	865
Alld-Lyons	2,435	CU	149	Lloyds	1,879	Royal Ins	487
Anglian	401	Courtaulds	906	Lonrho	925	Sainsbury	2,322
ASDA	2,480	Dalgety	157	Lucas	628	Scot & N	1,016
AB Foods	195	Enterprise	5,619	M&S	3,433	Sears	4,546
Argyll	1,258	Eurotunnel	243	Maxwell Cm	1,123	Severn Trnt	1,128
BAA	783	Fisons	658	MEPC	131	Shell	3,159
BET	1,883	Gen Acc	1,049	Midland	2,346	Smith & N	1,956
BTR	1,952	GEC	4,677	Nat West	4,208	SK Beech	1,244
BAT	2,218	Glaxo	1,703	N W Water	1,824	Sun Allnce	534
Barclays	2,294	Grand Met	3,000	P&O	574	Tarmac	763
Bass	378	GUS 'A'	241	Pearson	120	Tate Lyle	1,982
BICC	795	GRE	638	Pilkington	1,074	TSB	1,591
Bk Scotlnd	655	GKN	408	Prudential	3,894	Tesco	1,361
Blue Circle	649	Guinness	1,326	Racal	1,516	Thames Wtr	2,317
BOC	517	Hamm 'A'	221	Rk Hovis	1,583	Thorn EMI	1,142
Boots	1,722	Hanson	7,855	Rank	263	Trafalgar	3,850
Br Aero	1,654	H & C	921	R&C	118	THF	1,760
Br Airways	5,091	Hawker	744	Redland	1,128	Ultramar	897
Br Gas	2,900	Hillsdown	358	Reed	273	Unilever	737
Br Petrol	5,290	ICI	1,180	Reuters	1,087	United Bis	1,123
Br Steel	5,390	Kingfisher	623	RMC Gp	322	Wellcome	342
Br Telecm	6,591	Lasmo	1,107	RTZ	1,395	Whitbrd	1,046
Burmah Cst	537	Ladbroke	1,230	R-Royce	2,448	Wig Teape	2,028
C&W	1,808	Land Sec	658	Rothmn 'B'	67	Willis Cor	776

TRADITIONAL OPTIONS

First Dealings	Last Dealings	Last Declaration	For Settlement
March 18	April 5	June 27	July 8

Call options were taken out on: 25/3/90 ADT, Amstrad, Brent Walker, Budgens, Burns Anderson, Business Tech, Dares Estates, Explaura, Hunterprint, Ivernia West, NSM, Saatchi & Saatchi.

Put & Call: Davy Corp.

COMPANY BRIEFS

COMPUTER PEOPLE (Fin) Pre-tax: £3.11m (£4.22m) EPS: 16.42p (21.80p) Div: 4.1p mkg 6.2p	Last time's total dividend was 5.85p. Extraordinary charge of £636,000 relates to closure of datacentre operation in New York.
EPWIN GROUP (Fin) Pre-tax: £3.51m (£3.05m) EPS: 15.5p (14.1p) Div: 4.3p mkg 6.4p	Last time's total dividend was 6p. Extraordinary charge of £651,000 relates to disposals. Upturn in demand unlikely until late 1991.
MAYBORN GROUP (Fin) Pre-tax: £1.56m EPS: 7.4p (2p loss) Div: 2.5p mkg 3.8p	Previous year's profits £200,000 and dividend 3.8p. Extraordinary charge of £571,000 covers trading losses and closure of Stahlwood Toy Co.
RICARDO INTL (Int) Pre-tax: £2.50m (£1.49m) EPS: 5.24p (7.25p) Div: 1.9p (1.9p)	Russian automotive contracts suspended through lack of foreign currency at estimated cost of £1m. Trading conditions still difficult.
NMW COMPUTERS (Fin) Pre-tax: £413,000 EPS: 1.3p (0.2p) Div: 0.5p (0.25p)	Previous year's profits £87,000. Turnover fell from £9.12m to £8.73m but margins improved and trading profits rose from £0.42m to 0.52m.
SHARPE & FISHER (Fin) Pre-tax: £1.61m (£2.92m) EPS: 6.3p (9.4p) Div:2.5p mkg 4p (4p)	Profits from building supplies halved to £824,000; property income down from £2.45m to £2.1m. Sales remain depressed.
LLOYD THOMPSON (Int) Pre-tax: £5.11m (£4.03m) EPS: 9.3p (7.9p) Div: 2.7p (2.3p)	Profits rose despite adverse impact of weak dollar. Acquisitions helped turnover rise from £9.6m to £13.4m. Favourable outlook for full year.
SHEFFIELD INSULATIONS Pre-tax: £6.19m (£5.5m) EPS: 15.6p (15.9p) Div: 3.6p mkg 5.4p	Final results. 4.95p dividend paid in 1989. Board expects lower level of activity in each sector in 1991, but still confident about prospects.
ROTORK (Fin) Pre-tax: £7.71m (£6.15m) EPS: 16.08p (13.1p) Div: 5.15p mkg 9p (8p)	Turnover up from £39.3m to £50.8m. There was a net loss of £208,000 on the sale of subsidiaries. Board confident of progress this year.
HANDLEY-WALKER (Fin) Pre-tax: £1.4m (£2m) EPS: 13.4p (20p) Div: 5p mkg 8p (8p)	Provisions for bad and debts substantially increased. Overseas sales accounted for almost 29 per cent of revenues, against 24 per cent
ESTATES & AGENCY Pre-tax: £686,000 EPS: 8.4p (7.47p) Div: None announced	Final. Previous year's profits were £508,000. Directors will recommend final dividend when results for 18 months to the end-June are known.
WM BEDFORD (Fin) Pre-tax: £258,707 loss EPS: 4p (3.3p profit) Div: Nil	Previous profits were £265,345 when company paid 1p total dividend. Turnover for first two months of 1991 down 52 per cent
RMT GROUP (Int) Pre-tax: £32,000 EPS: 0.10p (5.12p loss) Div: Nil (nil)	Comparative loss in previous year £956,000. Group trading profitably since September 1990. Turnover almost unchanged at £5.7m

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Atlantis Resources	37
Aberforth Smlr (100p)	118
Alliance Res	48
Brabant Res (155p)	134
CMW Group (30p)	60
Castle Cairn (50p)	37
EFM Java Tst (50p)	40
East German Inv	117 −2
Eidos (100p)	60 −2
Esonbrook	69
Europe Energy	14
Faber Prest (175p)	129
Foreign & Col	50
Highcroft Inv	165
Invergordon (135p)	162 +4
Levercrest (108p)	69
MMEC	3½
MMI (20p)	23
Malaysia Capital	27½
Midland Radio	96
Pelican Gp (50p)	21
Proteus Intl (84p)	128 +1
Seton Healthcare	168
Smaller IT	81 −1
Stand Platform (225p)	175
Trio Inv Tst	42
Utd Uniform	88
Unichem (100p)	150 +2
Wig Tpe App	218 −2

● *See main prices page for Elec shares*

RIGHTS ISSUES

Baynes (Charles) N/P	11½
Cmnty Hospital N/P	41 +1

(Issue price in brackets).

MAJOR INDICES

New York:
Dow Jones .... 2876.98 (+18.07)*
S&P Composite .... 370.46 (+2.98)*

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average .... 26645.79 (+32.60)

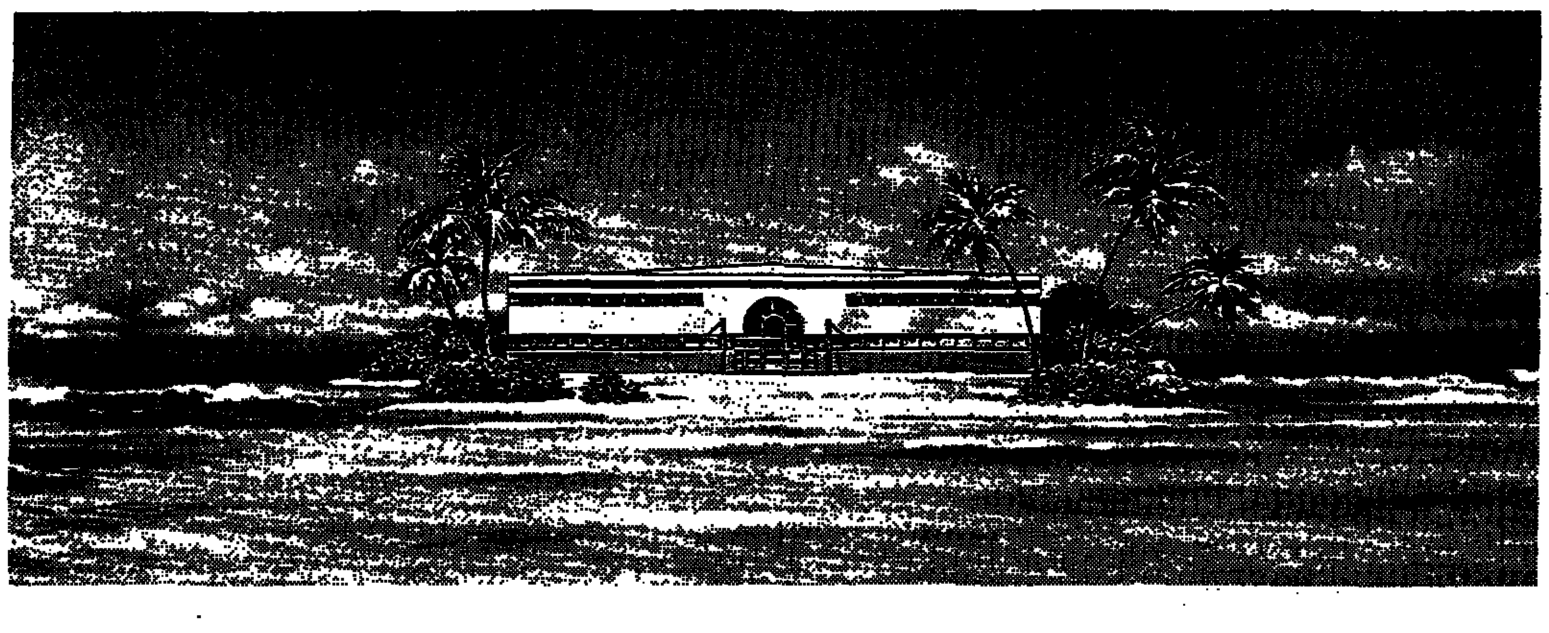
Hong Kong:
Hang Seng .... 3718.55 (+2.40)
FT-SE Euro 100 .... 1076.41 (−0.80)

Amsterdam:
CBS Tendency .... 93.9 (+0.5)
Sydney: AO .... 1425.6 (−1.9)
Frankfurt: DAX .... 1515.50 (−4.79)

Brussels:
General .... 5748.12 (+16.13)
Paris: CAC .... 481.69 (+7.92)
Zurich: SKA Gen .... 542.0 (same)

London:
FT.—A All-Share .... 1183.79 (−5.33)
FT.— "500" .... 1302.86 (−5.55)
FT. Gold Mines .... 145.9 (−0.6)
FT. Fixed interest .... 94.06 (−0.18)
FT. Govt Secs .... 84.51 (−0.50)
Bargains 36864
SEAQ Volume 408.6m
USM (Datastream) .... 136.90 (−0.83)

*Denotes latest trading price



N O
B U S I N E S S I S
A N I S L A N D

Ford, Bosch, Sony and British Airways are just a few of the companies who have chosen Wales for expansion or relocation.

And here's why.

Labour availability in Wales is quite simply excellent, with few problems recruiting and retaining high quality, well-qualified managerial, technical and professional staff. Not only this, but the Principality also offers reassuringly high levels of workforce loyalty and productivity.

Add to this the number of major new construction projects that have been undertaken in recent years, plus the extensive communications links, and the case for Wales is very strong indeed.

Nobody is better placed to assist you in coordinating your relocation requirements than the Welsh Development Agency. We can help you with everything from arranging funding to the actual sourcing of superbly situated Welsh premises.

Don't be an island. Don't be cut off from your customers or workforce.

To find out how the WDA could assist you, call: Paul Lewis, UK Manager, Welsh Development Agency, Pearl House, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF1 3XX on Cardiff (0222) 222666, or write to him today.

Please contact me with more details about opportunities in Wales.
NAME:
TITLE:
COMPANY:
ADDRESS:

POSTCODE: TEL:
T 26/03/91
Welsh Development Agency, Pearl House, Greyfriars Road, Cardiff CF1 3XX

WDA

هكذا من الاصل

مكتبة الاهرام

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Late rally

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began March 11. Dealings end March 28. §Contango day April 2. Settlement day April 8.
§Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Prices recorded are at market close. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Where one price is quoted, it is a middle price. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

Portfolio PLATINUM

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money stated. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or loss
1	Kingfisher	Drapery,Stores	
2	Broken Hill	Industrials A-D	
3	Westpac	Banks,Discount	
4	High-Point	Industrials E-K	
5	Hambros	Banks,Discount	
6	Clifford Foods 'A'	Foods	
7	Hillsdown	Foods	
8	Hartstone	Drapery,Stores	
9	Brent Walker	Leisure	
10	Ryl Bk Scot	Banks,Discount	
11	Pifco	Electricals	
12	Lopex	Paper,Print,Adv	
13	Leeds	Textiles	
14	Daejan	Property	
15	Yorklyde	Textiles	
16	Fine Art Dev	Drapery,Stores	
17	Yorkshire Water	Water	
18	P & O 5.5%	Transport	
19	Derwent Hldgs	Property	
20	Etam	Drapery,Stores	
21	Bromsgrove Inds	Industrials A-D	
22	Jardine Math	Industrials E-K	
23	UK Land	Property	
24	Rotork	Industrials L-R	
25	Bemrose	Paper,Print,Adv	
26	Goal Pet	Oil,Gas	
27	Utd Biscuits	Foods	
28	Racal Telecom	Electricals	
29	Elliott (B)	Industrials E-K	
30	Multitone Elect	Electricals	
31	Brown Shipley	Banks,Discount	
32	Molins	Industrials L-R	
33	Union Disc	Banks,Discount	
34	Halstead (James)	Chemicals,Plas	
35	Chemring	Industrials A-D	
36	LASMO	Oil,Gas	
37	Kleinwort Benson	Banks,Discount	
38	Racal Elect	Electricals	
39	Ranger	Oil,Gas	
40	Central TV	Leisure	
41	Taylor Woodrow	Building,Roads	
42	Abbey National	Banks,Discount	
43	RHM	Foods	
44	Ben Bros	Building,Roads	
© Times Newspapers Ltd.		Daily Total	

Please take into account any minus signs

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

The £4,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was shared yesterday by four readers. Mr L Hobbs of Barnstaple, Devon; Mr Martin Jones of Hanley Swan, Hereford and Worcester; Mrs K Cahill, of Chepstow, Gwent; and Mrs Joan Stanton, of Hartwell, Northamptonshire, each receive £1,000.

Portfolio PLATINUM

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DAILY DIVIDEND £2,000

Claims required for +39 points

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (Under Five Years)

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

UNDATED

INDEX-LINKED

BANKS, DISCOUNT, HP

BREWERIES

BUILDING, ROADS

CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

DRAPERY, STORES

ELECTRICALS

ELECTRICITY

FINANCE, LAND

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

FOODS

HOTELS, CATERERS

INDUSTRIALS A-D

E - K

L - R

S - Z

INSURANCE

Investment Trusts appear on Page 29

LEISURE

MINING

MOTORS, AIRCRAFT

NEWSPAPERS, PUBLISHERS

OILS, GAS

PAPER, PRINT, ADVERTISING

PROPERTY

SHOES, LEATHER

TEXTILES

TOBACCOS

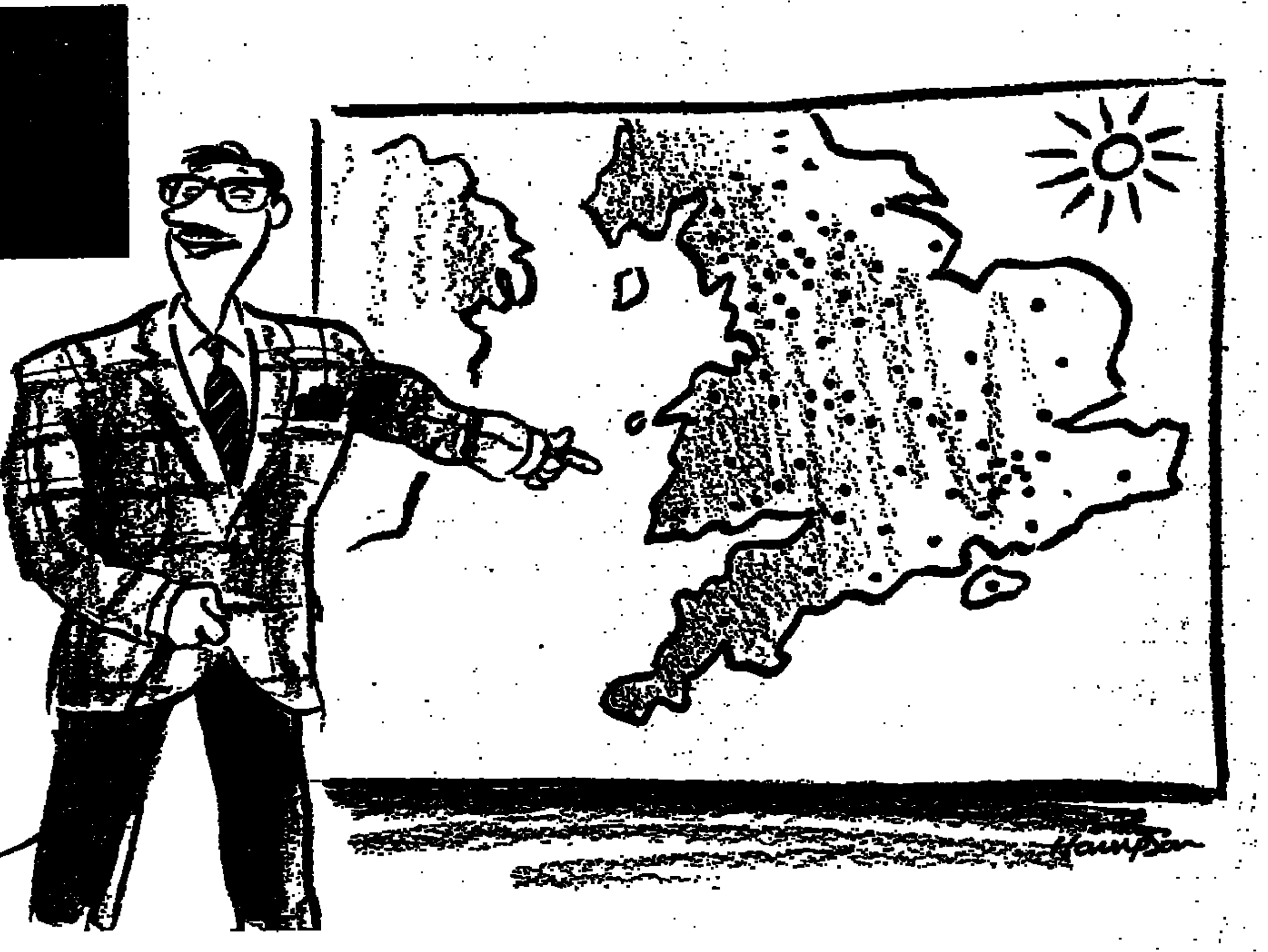
TRANSPORT

WATER

High	Low	Company	Bid	Offer	Ch'nge	Gross div p	Yld %	P/E
314	209	Anglian Water	276	278	-12	20.4	7.4	8.4
334	215¼	Northumbrian	302	306	-11	21.4	7.0	3.7
318	211¼	North West	281	284	-13	21.0	7.4	8.2
294	180	Severn Trent	268	271	-2	19.8	7.3	4.7
300	191	Sthn Water	254	258	-9	20.0	7.8	5.5
327	203	South West	284	287	-5	22.2	7.8	4.8
315	205	Thames Water	280	284	-9	21.4	7.6	6.9
353	219	Welsh Water	327	331	-6	22.4	6.8	5.3
374	209	Wessex Water	356	360	-1	20.3	5.7	6.9
321	221¼	Yorkshire Water	311	314	+2	20.6	6.6	6.7
£3095	£1800	Package Unit	£2860		-£70			

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

TOUCHES
T
EVERY
E
CORNER
C



So, just to recap, with 82 TECs across England and Wales, the long term outlook is very bright.

Every corner of England and Wales is covered by a Training and Enterprise Council which is planning and investing in training, education and business development.

They're run by top local employers and community leaders with government backing, so are a balance of sharply focused local knowledge backed by national strength.

Your local TEC is now unlocking the potential of individuals and companies in your area, so telephone us today for further information on how TECs work and more importantly how yours will work for you on 0800 444 246.

TECs UNLOCK POTENTIAL

TEC

TRAINING ENTERPRISE COUNCIL

EMPLOYMENT DEPARTMENT GROUP

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

The prices in this section refer to Friday's trading

● Ex dividend c Cum dividend k Cum stock split s Ex stock split m Cum all (any two or more of above) a Ex all (any two or more of above). Dealing or valuation days: (1) Monday (2) Tuesday. (3) Wednesday. (4) Thursday. (5) Friday.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

● Ex dividend a Ex all b Forecast dividend e Interim payment passed f Price at suspension g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment k Pre-merger figures n Forecast earnings o Ex other r Ex rights s Ex scrip or share split t Tax-free .. No significant data.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

MONEY MARKETS

Exchange index compared with 1985 was down at 92.2 (day's range 92.1-92.3).

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for March 25	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
New Yrk	1.7615-1.7680	1.7655-1.7665	1.08-1.01pr	2.63-2.61pr
Montrl	2.0407-2.0503	2.0453-2.0491	0.52-0.45pr	0.97-0.90pr
Amstrdm	3.3114-3.3210	3.3174-3.3202	1¼-1pr	2½-2pr
Brussels	60.40-60.73	60.49-60.70	23-21pr	51-45pr
Copnhgn	11.2395-11.3014	11.2745-11.2885	3¼-2⅞pr	6⅛-5½pr
Dublin	1.1005-1.1025	1.1013-1.1023	29-22pr	65-55pr
Frankft	2.9376-2.9491	2.9449-2.9483	1½-1pr	2⅞-2⅝pr
Lisbon	256.13-257.61	256.53-257.56	28-17pr	17-65ds
Madrid	181.47-183.10	182.46-183.02	6-20ds	24-46ds
Milan	2183.82-2192.87	2187.90-2192.87	4-2pr	7-4pr
Oslo	11.4375-11.4823	11.4581-11.4781	2⅞-1⅞pr	4⅞-4pr
Paris	9.9827-10.0161	10.0016-10.0138	3⅝-3⅜pr	7⅝-7⅛pr
Stckhlm	10.6659-10.7146	10.6863-10.7121	1-⅝pr	1⅝-⅞pr
Tokyo	243.70-244.60	243.99-244.31	1-⅞pr	2⅜-2⅜pr
Vienna	20.66-20.73	20.70-20.73	7⅝-6⅝pr	18⅝-16⅝pr
Zurich	2.5162-2.5236	2.5176-2.5217	1⅛-⅞pr	2⅝-2⅛pr

Source: Extel *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 12½ Finance Hse 14

Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 13 Low 12½ Week fixed: 12⅜

Treasury Bills (Dis):Buy: 2 mth 11⅞ ; 3 mth 11⅞ . Sell: 2 mth 11⅞ ; 3 mth: 11¹³⁄₁₆ .

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	12⁹⁄₃₂-12⁵⁄₃₂	11³¹⁄₃₂-²⁹⁄₃₂	11²³⁄₃₂-11⅝	11⅛-10¹³⁄₁₆	
Trade Bills (Dis):	12²⁵⁄₃₂	12¹⁹⁄₃₂	12¹¹⁄₃₂	11¹¹⁄₁₆	
Interbank:	12⅝-12¹³⁄₁₆	12¹¹⁄₁₆-12½	12⁹⁄₁₆-⁷⁄₁₆	12⅛-12	11⅞-11¹¹⁄₁₆
(Overnight: open 13⅝, close 15 .					
Local Authority Deps:	12⅝	n/a	12⁹⁄₁₆	12⅛	11¹¹⁄₁₆
Sterling CDs:	12⅞-12⅝	12⅞-12⅝	12¹³⁄₃₂-⁹⁄₃₂	11¹⁵⁄₁₆-11⅞	11½-11⅜
Dollar CDs:	6.40-6.35	6.37-6.32	6.37-6.32	6.50-6.45	6.95-6.90
Building Society CDs:	12⅝-12⅝	12⁹⁄₁₆-12⁷⁄₁₆	12⁷⁄₁₆-⁵⁄₁₆	11¹⁵⁄₁₆-11⅞	11⅝-11½

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	6½-6	6⅝-6⁹⁄₁₆	6½-6⁵⁄₁₆	6⅝-6⁷⁄₁₆	6⅛-5⅞
Deutschemark:	9-8⅞	8¹⁵⁄₁₆-¹³⁄₁₆	9¹⁄₁₆-8¹⁵⁄₁₆	9⅛-9	8½-7½
French Franc:	9⅝-9⅛	9⅝-9⅜	9⁷⁄₁₆-9⁵⁄₁₆	9⅞-9⅜	9⅛-8⅝
Swiss Franc:	9-8⅞	8⁹⁄₁₆-8⁷⁄₁₆	8⁷⁄₁₆-8⁵⁄₁₆	8⁵⁄₁₆-8¹⁄₁₆	8-7
Yen:	9-8⅝	8⁹⁄₁₆-8⁷⁄₁₆	8⅛-8⅛	7⅞-7⅞	7⅛-6⅞

GOLD AND PRECIOUS METALS *(Baird & Co)*

Bullion: Open $362.20-362.70 Close: $359.20-359.90 High: $362.25-362.75
Low: $359.00-359.50 Krugerrand: $358.75-359.75 (£203.00-204.00)

Sovereigns: Old $87.00-88.00 (£49.00-50.00) New $85.50-86.50 (£48.00-49.00)

Platinum: $393.60 (£222.55) Silver: $3.95 (£2.235) Palladium: $84.75 (£47.90)

OTHER STERLING RATES

Argentina austral*	18835.9-18880.7
Australia dollar	2.2886-2.2901
Bahrain dinar	n/a
*Brazil cruzeiro **	412.838-413.423
Cyprus pound	0.8135-0.8235
Finland marka	6.9425-7.0025
Greece drachma	316.40-319.60
Hong Kong dollar	13.725-13.736
India rupee	34.16-34.56
Kuwait dinar KD	n/a
Malaysia ringgit	4.8544-4.8599
Mexico peso	5275-5375
New Zealand dollar	2.9805-2.9873
Saudi Arabia riyal	n/a
Singapore dollar	3.1222-3.1259
S Africa rand (fin)	5.7321-5.8301
S Africa rand (com)	4.7783-4.8064
U A E dirham	n/a

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank.*

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Ireland	1.5940-1.5955
Singapore	1.7710-1.7720
Malaysia	2.7535-2.7550
Australia	1.2970-1.2981
Canada	1.1597-1.1602
Sweden	6.0600-6.0650
Norway	6.4975-6.5025
Denmark	6.3925-6.3975
W Germany	1.6695-1.6705
Switzerland	1.4268-1.4278
Netherlands	1.8835-1.8845
France	5.6700-5.6750
Japan	138.25-138.35
Italy	1241.7-1242.7
Belgium (Com)	34.37-34.41
Hong Kong	7.7855-7.7865
Portugal	145.65-145.85
Spain	103.30-103.40
Austria	11.73-11.75

ECGD: Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance. Make-up day: Dec 31, 1990 Agreed rates Jan 25, 1991 to Feb 25, 1991 Scheme I: 14.54%. Schemes II & III: 15.09%. Reference rate Dec 1, 1990 to Dec 31, 1990 Scheme IV & V: 13.843%.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Close	Volume
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 30803	Mar 91	2430.0	2433.0	2413.0	2428.0	4599
	Jun 91	2470.0	2470.0	2451.0	2468.0	1723
	Sep 91	2501.0	2501.0	2501.0	2504.0	100
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 122820	Jun 91	88.77	88.77	88.63	88.66	33281
	Sep 91	89.47	89.47	89.31	89.34	7073
	Dec 91	89.65	89.65	89.54	89.56	3699
Three Month Eurodollar Previous open interest: 31151	Jun 91	93.39	93.40	93.37	93.38	2149
	Sep 91	93.08	93.09	93.05	93.08	486
Three Month Euro DM Previous open interest: 77373	Jun 91	90.84	90.84	90.76	90.78	8434
	Sep 91	91.02	91.03	90.99	90.99	3045
US Treasury Bond Previous open interest: 5827	Jun 91	94-15	94-19	94-14	94-18	507
	Sep 91				94-05	0
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 28459	Mar 91	91-01	91-01	91-01	90-26	63
	Jun 91	91-08	91-12	90-30	91-03	15585
Japanese Govt Bond Previous open interest: 465	Jun 91	96.36	96.45	96.38	96.32	7
German Govt Bond Previous open interest: 71600	Jun 91	84.86	84.85	84.52	84.59	24861
	Sep 91	85.10	85.10	84.87	84.81	960
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 2082	Jun 91	90.77	90.77	90.58	90.65	198
	Sep 91	90.90	90.92	90.50	90.88	77

COMMODITIES

LONDON FOX

COCOA		COFFEE		SUGAR (FOB) C Czarnikow	
Mar	643-640	Mar	590-580	May	204.0-03.2
May	670-668	May	613-612	Aug	204.0-03.2
Jul	698-696	Jul	629-627	Oct	200.0-99.0
Sep	720-713	Sep	646-645	Dec	199.0-91.0
Dec	744-743	Nov	662-660	Mar	191.2-90.8
Mar	768-768	Jan	679-675	May	193.2-90.8
May	786-786	Mar	694-690		
	Vol: 3733		Vol: 9807		Vol: 734

LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT Close (£/t)		BARLEY Close (£/t)		HI-PRO SOYA Close (£/t)	
May	132.90	May	117.65	Apr	119.0-18.0
Jun	134.85	Sep	107.45	Jun	116.5-15.5
Sep	110.10	Nov	111.20	Aug	119.5-18.5
Nov	113.45	Jan	114.65	Oct	123.5-22.5
Jan	116.85	Mar	117.65	Dec	128.0-26.5
Vol:	522	Vol:	16	Vol:	41

LONDON POTATO FUTURES Volume: 143

	Open	Close
Apr (£/tonne)	115.0	114.6
May	144.0	141.5

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION
Average fatstock prices at representative markets on March 25

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	87.07	203.82	108.06
(+/-)	-0.68	*+8.07	-0.78
Eng/Wales:	87.07	210.17	107.75
(+/-)	-0.70	+10.35	-0.83
(%)	-2.0	-26.0	-40.4
Scotland:	87.18	183.53	110.06
(+/-)	+0.15	-0.79	-0.94
(%)	+28.9	-38.9	-23.7

* *Estimated dead carcase weight*

LONDON MEAT FUTURES
Live Pig (p/kg)

Mar	
Open:	unq
Close:	113.3
Apr	
Open:	unq
Close:	113.3
May	
Open:	unq
Close:	113.3

Volume: 65

LONDON OIL REPORTS (ICIS-LOR) - London 6.00pm: Activity and prices declined as the market drifted into a short working week.

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	18.60	-0.40
Brent 15 day (Apr)	18.90	-0.30
Brent 15 day (May)	18.40	-0.30
W Texas Intermediate (May)	19.85	-0.40
W Texas Intermediate (Jun)	19.45	-0.35

PRODUCTS (Buy/sell $/MT)
Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Gas 1.5	239 (-6)	244 (-6)
Gasoil EEC	169 (-2)	171 (-2)
Non EEC 1H Apr	172 (-1)	174 (n/c)
Non EEC 1H May	unq	unq
3.5 Fuel Oil	67 (-1)	69 (n/c)
Naphtha	212 (-10)	215 (-10)

IPE FUTURES
GAS OIL

Apr	167.75-67.50	Aug	162.50-62.25
May	163.25 BID	Sep	164.00-63.75
Jun	160.75-60.50	Oct	166.50-65.50
Jul	160.75-60.50		Vol: 3921

BRENT

Apr	18.75-18.85	Jun	17.75-17.85
May	18.30-18.40		Vol: n/a

BIFFEX
GNI Freight Futures Dry Cargo ($10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Mar 91	1684	1675	1679
Apr 91	1420	1400	1405
Jul 91	1098	1080	1098
Oct 91	1200	1200	1200

Vol: 159 lots Open interest: 3915
Dry cargo index 1691 -20

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A (£/tonne)	1357.0-1358.0	1352.0-1353.0	Vol:416875
Lead (£/tonne)	346.00-347.00	362.50-363.00	38450
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1190.5-1191.5	1188.0-1190.0	299675
Tin ($/tonne)	5457-5458	5555-5560	5885
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1460.0-1461.0	1496.0-1497.0	437000
Nickel ($/tonne):	9210.0-9220.0	9200.0-9205.0	28992

FOX MGMI INDEX
(5pm prices)

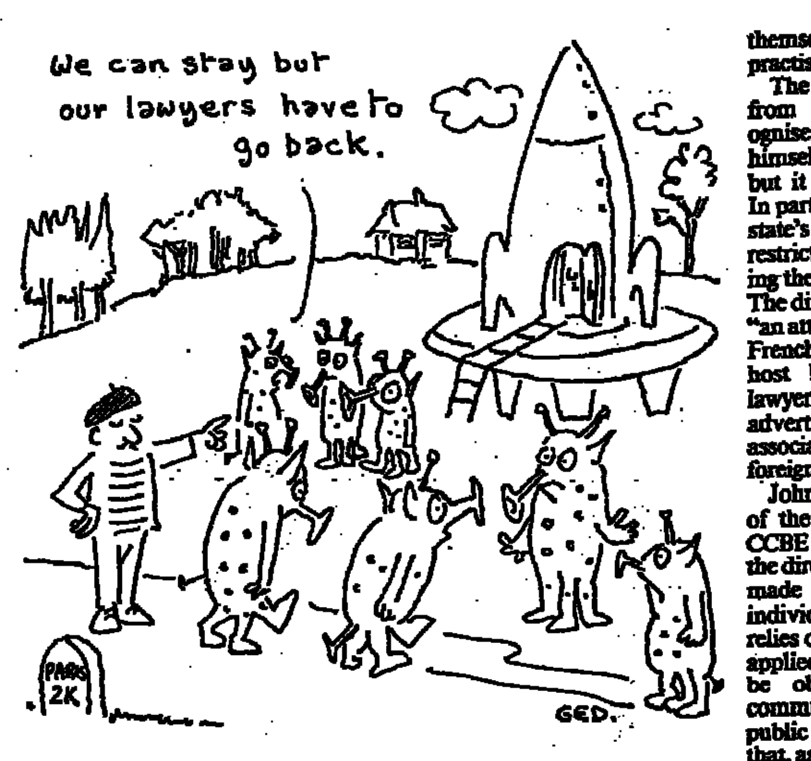
	Bid	Offer
Apr	154.50	155.20
May	154.00	154.70
Jun	152.10	154.70

Vol: 360

A lucrative law unto themselves

LEGAL BRIEF

As the 1992 single market arrives, lawyers face new threats to cosy monopolies, but **Josephine Carr** finds a French spanner in the works which could wreck the system


We can stay but our lawyers have to go back.
PARIS 2K
GED.

The single European market means a highly competitive business opportunity to industry and commerce. To lawyers, however, it has become a threat to cosy established monopolies. In the name of protecting those same free marketeering clients, the lawyers' self-regulatory bodies are fighting a rearguard action to prevent large commercial law firms exporting their services.

Claiming the moral high ground of consumer protection, the lawyers' self-regulatory bodies insist that law and lawyers cannot be exported beyond national boundaries unless they are strictly regulated.

At stake is a slice of profits from the lucrative market in advising clients on the laws of the European Community and its member states. The protectionist lobby wants to reserve that business for its own lawyers. The free marketeers argue there should be open competition.

The debate centres on the right of lawyers and their firms to open offices in other member states, employ local lawyers and merge with local firms.

The main battle line is drawn between those countries, notably The Netherlands and Britain, where commercial law firms have grown into large multi-specialist partnerships, which export legal services, and the rest of Europe, where law is practised mainly by sole practitioners or firms with fewer than 20 lawyers.

The issue has come to a head in France. Taking advantage of the European Commission's indecision, French lawyers have thumbed their noses at the single market. The French justice ministry steered through a law last December which, on the face of it, makes a mockery of the freedoms laid down in the Treaty of Rome. Under the guise of fusing a split profession, the French legislation makes the giving of any legal advice, including advice on foreign and European Community law, a monopoly in France.

The law is based on a clever interpretation of the community's directive on the mutual recognition of legal diplomas. The directive was an attempt to allow individual lawyers to requalify and practise the host state's domestic law without going back to first base. Every member state could require the lawyer either to spend time in a law firm or to take a simple aptitude test.

The French law turns the directive on its head, by taking the principle that a lawyer has a right to become a member of the French legal profession and making it an obligation, regardless of the law he or she intends to practise. A Greek lawyer advising a Dutch client on Greek law in Paris is breaking French law unless he has requalified.

Foreign firms are also barred from opening branch offices. The law is to come into force on January 1, 1992. Only foreign lawyers and firms established before December 31, 1990, can become automatic members of the domestic legal profession.

Community law purists say French law is in blatant breach of the freedoms to establish and provide services under the Treaty of Rome. This may not be easy to prove. The Law Society previously sought leading counsel's advice on the legality of a previous draft of the French law. Jeremy Lever, QC, and Richard Plender took a cautious view, concluding they could not confidently predict what the European Court of Justice, a forum of lawyers after all, would decide under the test of whether the restrictions are "objectively justified as in the general good". They are seeking counsel's opinion in a renewed attempt to find a way to challenge the French law.

The next move will be in May, in Dublin, at the meeting of the Council for the Bars of Europe (CCBE). The CCBE, which is made up of delegations from Europe's 12 bar associations and law societies, claims the right to decide cross-border issues affecting the legal profession, but represents the ultra-conservatives' interests. The body has made no public comment on the French law for fear of upsetting the French delegation and its allies.

As a compromise, the CCBE has drawn up its own draft directive on rights of establishment for lawyers creating two categories of foreign lawyers: integrated lawyers, who enter the host state's legal profession under the diplomas directive, and registered lawyers, who wish to establish themselves in the host state but practise their home state law.

The draft directive draws back from the French law and recognises a lawyer's right to establish himself under his home state title, but it raises controversial issues. In particular, it recognises the host state's right to impose its rules and restrictions on lawyers establishing themselves within its territory. The directive, called by one lawyer "an attempt to transnationalise the French monopoly law", allows the host bar to discipline foreign lawyers, ban activities such as advertising and control the form of association between domestic and foreign lawyers.

John Toulmin, QC, a member of the English delegation to the CCBE and one of the drafters of the directive, admits the CCBE has made no independent study of individual bar rules. Instead, it relies on the proviso that any rules applied to registered lawyers must be objectively justified under community law as being in the public good. This is a protection that, as the Law Society's own legal opinion says, is undefined when it comes to legal services. The CCBE says having the directive is better than allowing national bars to push through their own versions of the French law.

However, Michael Hutchings, a European Community law specialist, says: *"The fact that so many lawyers have established in so many countries in Europe indicates the directive is not necessary."*

The CCBE needs ten votes in favour before the draft becomes its official policy and can be formally presented to the commission. Despite the compromises, however, the CCBE is unlikely to get them. The Luxembourg bar, which refuses to recognise the right of any foreign lawyers to establish themselves within its territory, will vote against it. If the French also vote against, then Spain, Greece and Belgium will probably follow.

If the French vote for the draft, other protectionist bars will probably follow suit. Alarm bells should also start to ring, because the other bars will vote for it only if they believe it consolidates their power to prevent foreign lawyers establishing themselves in France in any way that will compete with domestic lawyers.

The European Commission must take a stand and impose community law on its squabbling lawyers. Lawyers properly qualified and admitted to the profession in one member state should be able to establish themselves in another and advise on their home state law, as well as associate with domestic lawyers to provide advice on host state law, without interference from host state bar associations.

The only consumer protections that matter are ensuring that a lawyer is labelled according to his or her training and that there is compulsory indemnity insurance across the community. If the French law stands, it will have a domino effect across Europe in advance of any directive and the doors to the free movement of lawyers will be locked.

● *The author is the editor of* International Financial Law Review.

Law Report March 26 1991 Queen's Bench Divisional Court

Charge dismissed before motorist's plea was taken can be tried again

Williams v Director of Public Prosecutions

Before Lord Justice Taylor and Mr Justice Rougier

[Judgment March 20]

A defendant was not acquitted of a charge of driving with excess alcohol in his breath when the certificate accompanying the summons showed the proportion of blood to alcohol and the magistrates had dismissed the summons before the defendant had pleaded. He could not, therefore, plead *autrefois acquit* when the prosecution issued a fresh summons correctly framed.

The requirement for the analyst's certificate to be served on the defendant not later than seven days before the hearing meant the hearing at which the evidence would be given and not necessarily the defendant's first appearance.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held in a reserved judgment in dismissing an appeal brought by the defendant, Alan David Wood, against his conviction by Holyhead Justices on January 26, 1989 of driving with excess alcohol in his blood contrary to section 6(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1972 (as substituted by section 25(3) of and Schedule 8 to the Transport Act 1981 [now section 5(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1988]).

Mr Alexander Carlile, QC, for the defendant; Mr Merfyn Hughes for the prosecution.

MR JUSTICE ROUGIER said that the defendant was summoned before the justices for a return date of October 29 alleging that he drove a motor vehicle after consuming so much alcohol that the proportion of it in his breath exceeded the prescribed limit.

On July 22 the prosecution sent him a certificate which indicated that the blood specimen he had provided was found to contain not less than 98mg of alcohol in 100ml of blood.

Since the defendant was being charged with driving with an excess of alcohol in his breath, such a certificate was inapposite.

Before the justices, the defendant's solicitor took a preliminary objection before the defendant was called upon to plead. The prosecution applied for an adjournment which was refused by the justices and they dismissed the summons.

Subsequently, the prosecution served a fresh summons on December 10, in correct form, with a return date of December 13, together with a new certificate of analysis of blood.

The defendant pleaded not guilty and was convicted. In support of his appeal, Mr Carlile raised two points.

The first concerned the rule against double jeopardy, that is, that a man might not be put in peril of conviction more than once for the same or substantially the same crime.

In higher courts that rule was called "*autrefois acquit*"; that phrase was inapt since such a plea was not open in the magistrates court although it was common ground that a plea in bar, which was the same in all but name, was open to a defendant in lower courts.

Mr Carlile submitted that the original summons was perfectly valid in form and content. The difficulty was that the prosecution were unable to adduce the evidence necessary to prove the charge.

Mr Carlile argued that once the defendant's solicitor took his point before the justices it was clear that the matter was under way and being contested and therefore the defendant was in jeopardy. Having found in the defendant's favour, the justices effectively dismissed the summons.

The prosecution argued that the defendant was not in jeopardy until he had pleaded and that by virtue of the statutory bar upon the use of evidence of the proportion of alcohol in the defendant's breath, the prosecution was bound to fail.

In his Lordship's opinion there were two possible situations in which a defendant might or might not be in jeopardy.

1 The temporal question: whether the proceedings had reached such a stage that he was in peril of conviction.

2 The qualitative question: whether the imperfection of the proceedings which led to the original decision in the defendant's favour was of such a kind that he would never have been in danger of conviction.

As to the temporal question, his Lordship concluded that Mr Hughes was correct that the time at which the defendant became in peril was when his plea was taken.

So far as the qualitative question was concerned, since the prosecution had framed the charge incorrectly, the defendant could never have been convicted and he was therefore never in jeopardy within the meaning of *autrefois acquit*.

Mr Carlile's second point concerned the service of the certificate of the analyst. The certificate which accompanied the second correct summons was served on December 10 with a return date of December 13.

Consequently, Mr Carlile said, the prosecution were not entitled to prove the charge on the second summons as the defendant had not been given a copy of the certificate not later than seven days before the hearing within the mandatory terms of section 10(5) of the 1972 Act, as substituted in Schedule 8 to the 1981 Act [now section 16(4) of the 1988 Act].

Mr Carlile submitted that the hearing referred to should be interpreted to mean the hearing on the defendant's first appearance. Mr Hughes, on the other hand, submitted that "hearing" referred to the hearing at which the evidence would be given. His Lordship considered Mr Hughes was correct.

Lord Justice Taylor delivered a concurring judgment.

Solicitors: T. R. Evans Hughes & Co, Holyhead; CPS, North Wales.

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Juvenile's mode of trial cannot be changed once determined

Regina v Nottingham Justices, Ex parte Taylor

Before Lord Justice Watkins and Mr Justice French

[Judgment March 5]

Once the mode of trial of a juvenile had been determined and recorded, the fact that the juvenile attained the age of 17 before the trial was irrelevant. He was still triable as though he were 16.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when (i) granting the applicant, Marlon Taylor, judicial review to quash decisions of Nottingham Justices declining jurisdiction to try him on charges of robbery and attempted robbery; and (ii) ordering that he be tried in the juvenile court.

Mr Adrian Fulford for the applicant; Miss Kathryn Thirlwall for the prosecution; Mr Guy Sankey as *amicus curiae*.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that the applicant was born on November 14, 1972. The issue was whether the fact that the applicant became 17 on November 14, 1989 compelled the justices to commit him for trial on indictment, seeing that they had previously ordered that he be tried summarily in the juvenile court.

On April 10, 1989 he appeared before justices charged with robbery and attempted robbery allegedly committed on April 7. He was remanded on bail on a number of occasions and on November 13, the day before he was 17, he appeared and pleaded not guilty.

His solicitor made representations about grave crimes when consideration was being given to final disposal of the case after the plea and, as the court records showed, summary trial in the juvenile court on February 6, 1990 was ordered.

On January 25, 1990 the Crown Prosecution Service applied to adjourn the trial and the deputy clerk advised the justices that since the applicant was then 17, *R v Vale of Glamorgan Justices, Ex parte Beattie* ([1984] JPR 120) applied so section 24 ceased to apply and he was triable only on indictment.

Lord Justice Watkins said that justices were being guided differently.

Three days after *Beattie* was decided, the same Divisional Court gave judgment in *R v Lewes Juvenile Court, Ex parte Turner* ([1984] JPR 186). The judgments in both cases were strongly influenced by the speech of Lord Diplock in *R v Islington North Juvenile Court, Ex parte Daley* ([1983] AC 347).

Mr Fulford maintained that the approach in *Ex parte Turner* was in all essential respects correct. The judgments clearly accurately reflected the true effect of *Ex parte Daley* which stated that the crucial day was when the court decided, no matter how long before the trial, which mode of trial to adopt. With that his Lordship entirely agreed.

In *Ex parte Turner*, it was held that the material date for determining whether a defendant was of age for electing jury trial was the date upon which the court made the decision on mode of trial.

Mr Justice McNeill suggested *there that where a person under* 17 pleaded not guilty and section 24 did not apply but it was not possible immediately to take the evidence in the trial "the register of the court should be marked 'remanded for summary trial'. *That* . . . would be decisive and determinative of the date on which, for the purposes of the section, the defendant appeared or was brought before the court."

Following *Ex parte Turner* and especially the advice of Mr Justice McNeill should cause no difficulty whatsoever. Providing records were carefully kept, as they should be, of the proceedings when mode of trial was decided upon, his Lordship could not imagine anybody in doubt as to where, when and how a case was to be dealt with by the calling of evidence in a magistrates court either in committal proceedings or in summary trial.

Thus the position in law was that if before he became 17 a juvenile appeared before the court, whether for the first time or on remand, charged with an offence which was indictable or triable either way and: (1) he pleaded not guilty when the charge was put to directly to him and (2) the mode of his trial was discussed with him or his legal representative, decided upon and the decision therupon recorded in clear terms, then whether the evidence was called on that occasion or not, his becoming 17 before the trial could have no effect upon the already determined mode of trial; in other words he must be tried as though he were 16.

It was only *if* mode of trial had not before then been determined that his becoming 17 could have any material effect whatsoever.

Mr Justice French agreed.

Solicitors: Roberts & Sale, Ilkeston; CPS, Nottingham; Treasury Solicitor.

Planning inspector's order for costs can be appealed

Secretary of State for Environment, Ex parte Botton
Botton v Secretary of State for the Environment and Another

An order for costs made by the Secretary of State for the Environment acting by his inspector was a decision "in proceedings on an appeal against the enforcement notice" and could therefore be subject of an appeal to the High Court under section 246(1) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971.

Mr Justice Roch so held in the Queen's Bench Division on March 1 dismissing an appeal by Mr Albert Botton against an inspector's order for costs.

HIS LORDSHIP said that whether a section 246 appeal or an application by way of judicial review, to which different time limits applied, was appropriate need not be decided as Mr Botton had safeguarded himself by using both avenues.

The combined effect of section 282(2) of the 1971 Act and section 250(5) of the Local Government Act 1972 was to allow the minister to make orders as to the costs of parties at an enquiry and as to the party by whom the costs were to be paid.

The order for costs was a decision by the secretary of state in proceedings on an appeal against an enforcement notice and as such could be subject of an appeal to the High Court under section 246(1) of the 1971 Act.

Contact order power

W v B

Justices had jurisdiction under section 9 of the Guardianship of Minors Act 1971 to make an order granting an applicant the right to correspond, send presents or make telephone calls to a minor and to be able to receive photographs and school reports in circumstances where physical access to the child was not feasible.

Mr Justice Ewbank so stated in the Family Division on March 4, on allowing an appeal from Braintree Justices and remitting the matter to them for reconsideration.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the father of an illegitimate girl was serving a long custodial sentence for attempting to murder the mother.

In October 1990 he sought to have contact with his child by correspondence and the sending of presents and to receive from the mother a photograph once a year and school reports and invited the justices to make such an order under the 1971 Act. The justices refused on the ground of lack of jurisdiction.

His Lordship said that such orders were made frequently in the county court and the High Court where a physical access order was not appropriate. The justices had the same jurisdiction as the county court and the High Court.

هكذا في الأصل

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From Dickensian to modern times

Chambers in the Inns of Court are becoming increasingly impractical.

Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent, looks at some new moves

Barristers are moving out of the Inns of Court. The traditional lawned precincts of the law, minutes from the Royal Courts of Justice, *are being vacated for modern office* blocks and the latest technology.

The Bar is not just shedding its Dickensian image. As competition grows, barristers realise that clients are less *inclined* to tolerate uncomfortable surroundings. Chambers are also severely overcrowded.

Eleven years ago, the Royal Commission on Legal Services *noted that many* barristers, especially in London, worked in cramped offices. Overcrowding, it said, was affecting their work.

Anthony Thornton, QC, the Bar Council treasurer, says: "The *larger*, more commercial sets have really outgrown their existing chambers. So if they are not to split into two or three annexes, a set of offices near the inns, which is equally convenient for the law courts, can give them a complete package."

In addition, the Bar and the inns adopted the policy in 1987 of moving to market rents. For years the inns' accommodation was subsidised. This was acknowledged as unfair to those outside the inns. Today, with rents at or near market levels, there is "not the financial incentive" to stay in cramped quarters, Mr Thornton says.

In recent months, the exodus has *become a steady stream*. Brick Court Chambers now has its main premises just outside the Temple gates in offices formerly occupied by solicitors. The set of Christopher Priday, QC, has moved from King's Bench Walk to a modern building behind Temple Church. The newly named Falcon Chambers is more spacious and houses everybody *under one* roof.

Others, as well as the big commercial and civil law sets, are on the move. A specialised criminal law set headed by Andrew Mitchell moved this week from 2 Garden Court to a modernised Fleet Street block containing conference and reception rooms, a library, and "playback equipment, computer technology and a developing database of recent changes in the criminal law".

Michael Hill, QC, has taken his 30-strong set into a block in Essex Street rented from the inns. With the civil set of John Dyson, QC, below, the building is almost a self-contained "*one-stop shopping*" unit. The custom-designed suite of white-walled rooms with modern leather furnishings and thick grey carpet is more reminiscent of a management consultancy than a traditional chambers. "People are wedded to the old idea that you find papers all over the floor in a barrister's chambers," Mr Hill says.

Such moves are not just about fixtures and fittings. This new building has enabled the set to revamp its structure in line with proposals *last* autumn from the Bar's strategy group. The set has grown and has a target of 35. Clerks *are on fixed salaries plus bonuses*, instead of commission, and a practice manager has been created, splitting the work of managing from the daily administration.

Although running costs of about *£500,000* are a higher percentage of turn over than previously, they are falling while turnover rises. Despite some opposition, the members now are all won over to its benefits, Mr Hill says. "We have been able to make ourselves modern and efficient and give a better customer-friendly quality service."

For some, a move is also about philosophy. The old radical set under Lord Gifford was a *pioneer* in setting up outside the inns in Covent Garden. Christine Kings, the practice manager at Doughty Street chambers, says: "It is light and airy here, with modern art instead of all that wood and heavy gold. We have a waiting room, lots of flowers, and serve clients coffee and tea. We are making conscious efforts to break away from the Bar *traditions that impede progress* and be forward-looking."

The set has a female senior clerk, uses Christian names instead of "sir", and "colourful clothes, not *just grey suits*", *are in evidence*.

So what of the inns' future? All is far from lost. As the big sets move out, others expand into the much needed space. One set under Michael Hucker has even moved into *new high-tech purpose-built* premises within Lincoln's Inn.

The rest will have to renovate rapidly if they are not to be left behind by the others outside — as *well as by the 20th century.*

ALAN WELLER

Christine Kings at Doughty Street chambers: "It is light and airy here"

INNS AND OUTS

Healthy advice

MORE than 80 health authority *managers* were at a conference last week to learn how to cut their malpractice claims. The conference was organised by the solicitors' firm Capsticks, which is creating a niche in this market with its database of cases built up over ten years.

Health authorities were particularly interested in the firm's new guide on claims management. This offers a programme for cutting the cost of claims and can be used with the firm's software to maintain an audit of claims and "near misses" to assist quality assurance. Brian Capstick says: "As hospital *managements* become either more independent of central government or just more financially efficient, the huge impact of claims will be taken more seriously."

Lifeline to help

A 24-HOUR helpline for domestic violence victims has been launched by Europ Assistance, *the insurance company*, with local solicitors. The helpline provides counselling, legal advice and names and addresses of organisations and solicitors able to help in, for example, obtaining injunctions.

The service, backed by Europ Assistance's in-house lawyers, will be offered through solicitors' practices. *The* Solent Solicitors' Group in Portsmouth, covering practices in the Portsmouth and Southampton area, is the first to take up the service.

Hugh McMurray, the legal services head at Europ Assistance, says: "The aim of the helpline is to offer victims of domestic violence immediate *legal* advice and counselling. Very often victims are confused and do not know whom to turn to or how to proceed."

Words on hearsay

PRACTITIONERS and others *involved in* trial proceedings are being asked to comment on the Law Commission's consultative document, "The Hearsay Rule in Civil Proceedings". The commission has provisionally recommended that, rather than being automatically excluded from civil proceedings, hearsay evidence should be admitted, subject to safeguards.

The hearsay rule has already been *modified* by *section 96* of the Children Act, which allows hearsay evidence to be admitted in, for example, hearings involving child abuse allegations. Comments are invited by May 31.

Bureau ties

THE Solicitors' Complaints' Bureau is to change the wording of an advertisement that said it was an "independent" arm of the Law Society after a complaint to the Office of Fair Trading. The advertisement, in *UK Press Gazette*, was spotted by a freelance journalist, Stanley Sarl, who says: "The only way the bureau is independent from the Law Society is in geographic location. It is funded by them and its senior staff are employed and appointed by them."

Bar stories

THE *Havers' Companion to the Bar*, which caused a furore by asking barristers to talk about their most interesting cases and reveal their fees, is about *to hit the market*. The guide, the idea of Patti Havers, the wife of the barrister Philip Havers and daughter-in-law to the former attorney-general, is aimed not only at solicitors but also at other professionals who can now use the Bar's services direct.

Despite the fuss, the directory has secured entries from 4,000 of the 6,500 practising barristers, who happily cite their cases, although for fees the reader is told to "refer to clerk". However, the Bar's initial outrage has left its mark, notably in the lack of entries from Manchester, where Bar leaders took a particularly dim view.

SCRIVENOR

Safety net with a hole in it

Lord Mackay's new proposals give little hope to the millions denied legal aid

The huge decline in the number of people eligible for civil legal aid was exposed just over a year ago in a study commissioned by the Legal Action Group. The study estimated that at least 13 million had fallen out of the scope of the scheme since *1979*.

As a result, Lord Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, *decided on a review but* the main proposals, which have now been floated, make meagre reading for the millions of people denied access to justice.

Fears are now widespread that the proposals do not tackle the problem and, though dressed in reforming guise, will devastate the legal aid system.

Lord Mackay seems to *have dismissed the possibility* of extending the legal aid scheme to cover the ineligible millions. He says: "Extending eligibility without other measures puts all the responsibility on government and *largely relieves both the litigants* and the lawyers of their responsibilities. Extended eligibility will quickly lead to waste and inflation of costs if *it is inadequately controlled*."

The undercurrent is unmistakable. People receiving legal aid have little interest in their cases because they have nothing to lose. They therefore do not monitor the performance of their lawyers, and the *lawyers have little incentive to* act efficiently. The result is huge wastage.

Lord Mackay's solution — to "control" inefficieacy — is the creation of a new system for distributing legal aid *funds. He proposes that only* the "most needy" litigants would obtain legal aid from the outset of their case. Clients with incomes above *that of the "most needy"* would be entitled to legal aid only after spending between £2,000 and £3,000 of their own money. For them, legal aid would act as a "safety net".

The aim is to "give the client a better sense of personal *involvement* in the litigation and afford an element of client interest in cost that is absent from the present system". Unfortunately, for all but the poorest litigants, the most likely result of the "*safety net" scheme will be to* prevent their involvement in litigation. A £2,000 to £3,000 threshold will exclude most people of moderate means.

If evidence is needed of the hurdle created by the threshold, Lord Mackay should consider that a fifth of those offered legal aid on the condition that they contribute to the cost of their case decide they cannot afford to do so. Of those who agree to contribute, a third find themselves in arrears.

The "safety net" proposal is clearly unworkable. Where then do the millions denied access to justice look? Lord Mackay *has ruled out* any possibility of extending legal aid, and is effectively embarking on a cost-cutting exercise. His justification — that it does *not provide the taxpayer with* value for money through "waste and inflation of costs" — is, however, inadequate.

If there is an inefficiency problem, why cannot it be solved, and why cannot a way be found to ensure that people are able to enforce their rights in the courts?

Only three weeks ago, Lord Mackay told the Parliamentary Press Gallery that "access *to justice is one of the* vital principles in a civilised society". He did not want "to penalise litigants for professional and administrative *failure to control costs*". Yet this is exactly what the "safety net" proposals will do.

The public have a right to know where the government stands. Lord Mackay cannot say one thing and do another. If justice is no longer to be available to those who are, in the words of the 1949 Legal *Aid Act, of "moderate means"*, he should be prepared to debate openly the consequences of his decision. He cannot take such a step while hiding behind a cynical masquerade of reform.

HENRY WITCOMB

● *The author is a member of the Citizen Action Compensation Campaign.*

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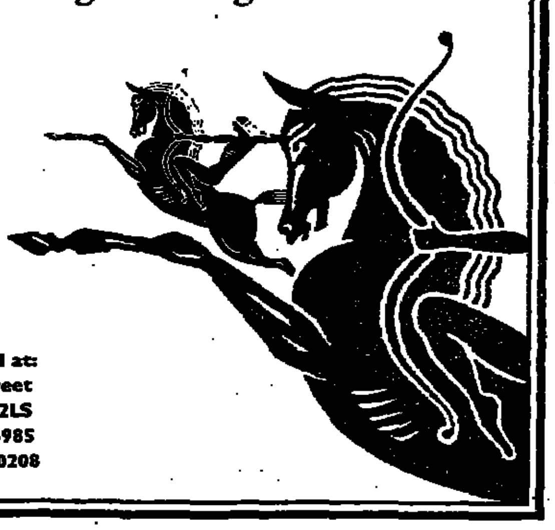

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The job could suit either a solicitor or a barrister wishing to change; a salary of up to £50,000 is envisaged and, in the case of an outstanding applicant, would be higher.

Suitable candidates will be aware that changes in the Private Bill procedures are under consideration. The firm sees potential here for the expansion of this practice and the successful applicant will be expected to help to take advantage of the opportunities.

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Shipping - 5 years + Qual - £ substantial

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Insurance Litigation - Newly Qualified + - to £37,000

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The Banking Ombudsman Scheme covers most individuals who receive banking services within the U.K. The ombudsman can make binding awards of up to £100,000. Because the Scheme is seen as providing an attractive alternative to the courts, the volume of work continues to increase. As a result the ombudsman wishes to expand the existing staff of 21 which includes 8 qualified lawyers and a resident banking adviser

Solicitors or barristers with experience and proven ability are sought *to help the Ombudsman investigate* and resolve complaints, many of which are complex. The work is varied and challenging. Impartiality, numeracy and drafting skills are required. Salaries of not less than £35,000 and £30,000 respectively.

Applicants should apply in writing with a C.V. to:

The *Ombudsman*, The *Office of the* Banking Ombudsman, Citadel House, 5/11 Fetter Lane, London, EC4A 1BR.

People who pick up the pieces from the ruins

From kamikaze pigeons to fires and thefts, the loss adjusters are often the first to come to the rescue. **Beryl Dixon** describes their job

One of Stephen Hope's first cases he calls "Impact by Pigeon". "I was called to investigate a claim for damage caused by a pigeon flying into an extractor fan from a chemical laboratory," Mr Hope, a 29-year-old loss adjuster, says. "There were pieces of it 150 yards away. As I was preparing to crawl up on to the roof, the manager said 'Can we throw away the pigeon now?' They had kept it for me for two weeks."

Most loss adjusters have a stock of entertaining stories. Another was once called to a fire at a smart London hotel to find a somewhat stylish evacuation in progress, with the guests milling about on the pavement sipping champagne.

Chartered loss adjusters are, according to their professional association, "independent claims specialists whose work is to ascertain the proper liability of an insurer for a loss within the terms and conditions of the policy of insurance involved".

That official definition describes a career which is a combination of quasi-legal work and detection. Meticulous, it must be; desk-bound, it certainly is not. Loss adjusters are strictly impartial negotiators, whose services are retained by insurance companies when a claim for damage is questioned — or increasingly, today, to help with the administration of straightforward claims, acting on behalf of the insurers to help their clients. "We are not just called in when fraud is suspected or damages are likely to be large, as some people think," says Bev Fitzgerald, a director of a large loss adjusting firm, and a representative of the Chartered Institute of Loss Adjusters.

"Insurance companies have their own criteria," *Mr Fitzgerald* says. "Some automatically use a loss adjuster if a claim exceeds a set figure; many do so when there are complications; but some also use us if they are particularly busy, and their own staff are stretched. Yet others actually prefer us to do the front-line work dealing with the claimant. We are strictly impartial, even though the insurers pay our fees. It is in their interests to be able to point this out to a claimant."

Loss adjusters often arrive on the scene very quickly. "I have arrived and stood with a factory owner watching his property burn down," Mr Fitzgerald says. "That is a situation which calls for a great deal of sensitivity."

Diplomatic skills are an essential part of a loss adjuster's make-up, according to the institute. "Customer satisfaction is important both to us and to the insurance companies, so our members must be personable, good at dealing with people sensitively," Mr Fitzgerald says. They also need to be firm when necessary, he says, confident of their judgment, and with the *strength of character not to be* swayed when under pressure. Anyone who can combine these almost contradictory characteristics has the makings of a loss adjuster. The rest comes with the training, but ability to assimilate technical knowledge is another prerequisite. Claims work involves this in varying degrees.

In domestic claims, the adjuster first surveys and physically assesses the damage, climbing on the roof in the case of storm damage, or tactfully asking to see photographs or valuation certificates relating to stolen items. Part of their role is also helping to arrange for damage to be put right by reputable tradesmen, and before leaving they will usually explain what their recommendation to the insurers is to be. "We pass on our findings to the companies in a full written report, but it is not on to leave the policy holder in the dark," *Mr Fitzgerald* says. Mindful of their impartiality, adjusters will also advise if someone has underclaimed, which is rare. They are often in the position of having to break bad news, for example when a person's property is not fully insured.

At the other end of the scale come the large industrial fires, burglaries, floods and structural damage. In the course of the day an adjuster could visit someone's home after the theft of a prized possession, a building site to assess accidental damage, and then go to a board meeting in a multinational company. The work requires considerable flexibility. *The householder might want to* chat over a cup of tea; the building site workers might not respond well to a man in a pin-stripe suit; while at the board meeting the adjuster is virtually an ex-officio director.

"Company directors are proficient in their own work, but what to do about a factory fire, or how to replace parts or stock quickly from overseas sources — all kinds of things are outside their experience," Mr Fitzgerald says.

● *The Chartered Institute of Loss Adjusters is at 376 The Strand, London WC2 0OR.*

ADRIAN BROOKS

Never a dull moment: Stephen Hope enjoys the job variety

PROFILE

Adjust to a new career

LOSS adjusters have varied backgrounds. Candidates can train after taking GCSEs or A-levels but, because of the complex nature of the work, many employers prefer to recruit trainees with previous relevant experience. Stephen Hope, who works for the London office of a large loss adjusting firm, is a qualified quantity surveyor.

"My experience has proved very useful, although on the academic side I still have to pass the Chartered Institute of *Loss Adjusters exams*," Mr Hope says. "The practical training is very good. I was assigned to a qualified adjuster for six weeks and accompanied him on all his visits. Then I was given my first losses to deal with, under supervision, and as I gained confidence I was assigned more cases and expected to require less help, although it was available.

"I like the way we work. We all have our own caseloads, but support each other. My colleagues here have previously been accountants, engineers, *surveyors, insurers and policemen.* In a sense we are an office of specialists. And if we need more expert help we can call on it — commission a forensic scientist, for example. It is a tremendously interesting job. I also enjoy the sheer variety. You never know what will happen next.

"The hours are long. On office days the phone rarely stops *between 9am and 5pm, so I* generally get in about 7.30am to concentrate on reports and paperwork. If a new case comes in you drop everything. But then you have to work late to complete the report for another claimant."

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

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Deputy Director - Finance & Property Development

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A graduate and probably a qualified accountant aged from your mid thirties, it is likely that you will also have a higher degree such as an MBA. You must also have a proven track record of business *orientated management* gained in substantial organisations and ideally embracing finance, information technology, management information systems and property development. Personally you *must be outgoing, forceful and yet diplomatic and* a first class communicator.

Please send full personal and career details, including a daytime telephone number and indication of present remuneration, to Torrance Smith, Coopers & Lybrand Deloitte Executive Resourcing Ltd, 76 Shoe Lane, London EC4A 3JB, quoting reference TS794/S on both letter and envelope, or telephone for further particulars on 071 822 8375.

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Closing date for applications 15th April 1991.

Ordnance Survey

HEAD OF FINANCE

Ordnance Survey is the National mapping agency responsible for the topographic survey and mapping of Great Britain. It operates as an Agency under the Government's Next Steps Policy for delivering high quality service in a businesslike manner. First established 200 years ago, Ordnance Survey is today a world leader in computerised mapping and actively markets its products and services. Turnover in 1989/90 was £44 million.

The retirement in July of the present Head of Finance will create a vacancy at Southampton for an experienced professional accountant. The successful applicant will be expected to:

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- act as head of profession for accounting staff.

The execution of these duties will require a professional accountant with extensive management and finance policy experience. Understanding of the funding and accounting procedures in Government and of procurement and stores practice will also be looked for. The post also involves considerable interaction with line managers and outside bodies such as HM Treasury and National Audit Office.

The appointment is permanent and the starting salary will be up to £32 550. There are good pension arrangements and possible assistance with relocation expenses.

For further details and application form (to be returned by 11 April 1991) write to:

The Personnel Manager
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UGANDA

Senior Health Economist/ Health Planner

Uganda, rightly known as the Jewel of Africa because of its beauty and its natural and human resources, has had one of the best national health systems in Africa, combining disease control programmes with a network of clinics and hospitals offering preventive and curative services.

The disruption of the 1970s and early 1980s halted progress, but with a much improved and more stable security and economic situation, the Government of Uganda is set on a programme of rehabilitation. ODA is involved in a number of projects aimed at re-establishing effective health services and has agreed to assist with the planning process in co-operation with other aid donors.

Good planning is critical and your primary objective will be to help strengthen the resource planning capacity of the Ministry of Health's Planning Unit. You will focus on the development of appropriate systems to improve the prioritisation and management of health resources at central and district level. The Ugandan Government is considering the introduction of user charges for health care and you will be involved in developing and *implementing appropriate systems for improving donor* co-ordination and foreign assistance. This is a challenging and senior position requiring liaison with central ministries, and involving key advice and assistance on the design and implementation of systems covering a range of health sector activities and initiatives.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants should be British Citizens and have a post-graduate qualification in health economics and/or health planning. You should have had experience in a senior position for a central or local health authority as well as 3 years' relevant developing country experience. A thorough grounding in financial systems development and resource management is essential and an appreciation of the political constraints which often inhibit efficient resource planning is desirable.

TERMS OF APPOINTMENT

You will be on contract to the British Government for 3 years, on loan to the Government of Uganda. **Salary will be c.£46,200 p.a. (UK taxable).** Additional benefits will normally include tax-free overseas allowances, currently of £3,573 p.a. (single) and up to £6,828 p.a. (married), free accommodation and passages, annual fare-paid leave and children's education allowances, including holiday visit passages.

Closing date for receipt of completed applications is 12 April, 1991.

For further details and application form, please write to *Appointments Officer, Ref No AH364/CC/ST*, Abercrombie House, Eaglesham Road, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 8EA, or telephone 0355 843534.

ODA is committed to a policy of equal opportunities and applications for this post are sought from both men and women.

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Application form from the Chief Executive's and County *Solicitor's Department*, Devon County Council, County Hall, Topsham Road, Exeter. Tel: Exeter (0392) 382323 (24 hour answerphone).

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Esha Ness to be rewarded for gallant festival effort

By MANDARIN
(MICHAEL PHILLIPS)

AS programmes comprising only steeplechases are a comparative rarity, today's Royal Artillery meeting at Sandown Park should have a broad appeal, all the more so since chasing on the Esher course constitutes one of the finest spectacles in National Hunt racing, even when fields are on the small side.

With Esha Ness, Golden Celtic and Laundryman all standing their ground, the British Aerospace Rapier Novices' Chase is a fine example.

Much as I am loathe to desert Golden Celtic and Laundryman, who have provided winning naps for this column this season, I select Esha Ness, who ran that mighty race at Cheltenham last time to finish second to Roling Ball in the Sun Alliance Chase.

While conceding that siding with a horse who has a hard race at the recent festival is often fraught with risks, I do so now in the belief that his experienced trainer, Jenny Pitman, would not be going to the well again so soon unless she was confident about the outcome.

Esha Ness's run against Rolling Ball was better than anything achieved by her opponents today and prior to Cheltenham, Esha Ness had beaten Man On The Line in style when making that triumphant chasing debut at Newbury.

Forster: treble chance for improving Eastshaw

Today's card begins with the 'Right O' The Line' Handicap Chase when Kilbrittain Castle attempts his twelfth victory on the track at the ripe old age of 15.

Well as he shaped on his belated seasonal debut earlier this month when finishing third behind Amari King and Springholm, I doubt him being quite sprightly enough to cope with the Tim Forster-trained Eastshaw, who has looked in devastating form the twice that he has run and won at Leicester this season.

The Vsel Alanbrooke Memorial Handicap Chase looks best left to the Martin Pipe-trained and Peter Scudamore-ridden The Leggett now that he has struck form with a vengeance, scoring in resolute fashion on successive occasions at Chepstow and Wolverhampton.

The same successful combination of trainer and jockey will obviously be entertaining high hopes of also winning the Royal Ordnance Handicap Chase with Star's Delight, even under top weight.

However, as Star's Delight was beaten at Cheltenham recently when attempting to give a lot of weight to that useful novice in Aldino, I also believe he will be thwarted this time by another, Acre Hill, who is my nap following that good run over today's course and distance 17 days ago when he was attempting to give 8lb to Naatell.

In the meantime, his conqueror has gone on to win a handicap under top weight at Devon and Exeter. Furthermore, the form of Acre Hill's last race received another boost at Ludlow last Friday when the fourth horse, Wide Boy, also won.

As McCarthur, who finished third in the Sandown race, had won his two previous races, there is plenty of evidence to suggest that the form of that race is now built on the best foundations.

Prince Nepal, a winner at the Grand Military meeting, can trigger a double for his rider Gerald Oxley by winning the Royal Artillery Gold Cup, a double to be completed by The Argonaut capturing the RMC Group Ubique Hunters' Chase at the end of the day.

The Argonaut has already carried the royal colours to victory four times at Sandown and both today's going and distance will suit him demonstrably better than when he finished only fourth in the Grand Military Gold Cup over further and on softer ground last time.

Finally, Sumonda (4.5) looks the banker on the Flat at Leicester to avenge the defeat of her owner and trainer's even money favourite Casamurrae in the same race 12 months ago.

A commendable fourth in the Cheveley Park Stakes at Newmarket last September before winning on today's track the following month, Sumonda appears to have pounds in hand of those rivals who have run.

Leicester on

THE meeting at Leicester today goes ahead after passing a course inspection. The clerk of the course Nick Lees said yesterday: "We've had a fine day with a good drying wind. The going is still heavy and if it rained heavily overnight we would be in trouble, but the forecast is good."

Blinkered first time

LEICESTER: 3.35 Top Villain.

Moore to miss his top ride

GARY Moore is resigned to missing his chance of riding one of the top juvenile hurdlers, Reve De Valse, at Aintree next week.

Moore was set to partner Denys Smith's colt in the Glenlivet Anniversary Hurdle but, after having a plate inserted in a broken arm following a fall at Fontwell, he says he is 99 per cent certain to be ruled out.

"The owner, Ken Higson, wants me to try and get fit, but there's not much chance," Moore said. "The arm is in a sling and all I can do is rest it. Even if I wanted to have a go, I doubt I would pass the doctor."

He considers Reve De Valse, winner of his last five races, as the best horse he has ridden. "I honestly think he will win next week. All you have to do is ask him to quicken and he goes. It will take a very good horse to beat him."

O'Gorman back home

Emma O'Gorman, who was concussed in a fall at Southwell last week, was back home in Newmarket yesterday after being released from hospital in Nottingham.

Emma's father, the trainer Bill O'Gorman, said: "She's still sleeping a lot and is gradually feeling better." He added that his daughter had been buoyed up after watching her rival Alex Greaves land the Lincoln Handicap on Amenable.

Miss O'Gorman was badly concussed but suffered no broken bones when Honey Mill clipped the heels of another horse and gave her a crashing fall. Honey Mill escaped unscathed and is due to reappear at Catterick Bridge tomorrow.

Pitman may switch to Golden Freeze as National choice

MARK Pitman, the Cheltenham Gold Cup winning jockey who is confident of being fit in time for next week's Liverpool meeting, will ride Golden Freeze in the Grand National should the ante-post favourite Garrison Savannah be withdrawn.

Pitman is having intensive treatment on his pelvis, broken in a fall from Run To Form in the County Hurdle at the Cheltenham festival.

He expects to ride out this weekend and foresees no problems about appearing at Liverpool's three-day fixture, which starts a week on Thursday.

Garrison Savannah, his first-choice National ride, is far from certain to make the line-up. His trainer Jenny Pitman is considering running the eight-year-old in the Martell Chase on the first day, and bookmakers have inserted the "with a run" clause on the horse's price.

Stable companions Mick's Star and Team Challenge are possibles, but Mark Pitman is eyeing up the ride on Golden Freeze.

Out for most of last season with injury, the nine-year-old was pulled up on his reappearance at Worcester and then finished last of seven in the Champion Chase at the festival.

The jockey has been satisfied with the horse's progress and, if returning to the form that saw him go down narrowly when carrying a big weight in last season's Mackeson Gold Cup, Golden Freeze could be worth supporting at current odds of 33-1.

"It's been a question of knocking off the ring rust," said the jockey. "He was out for 18 months and has taken time to get used to racing again.

"He knocked a splint at the third fence at Worcester and was never going well afterwards. He jumped a lot better at Cheltenham and was running on well at the end. He will come on a lot for the race."

The recent drying weather is good news for connections of Ballyhane. Returning to form when third in the *Racing Post* Chase at Kempton, Ballyhane prefers fast ground and, after starting yesterday at 33-1, he was cut to 20-1 by Coral and 25-1 by William Hill.

Garrison Savannah remains 7-1 with a run and the second favourite Rinus was trimmed from 9-1 to 8-1 by Coral.

Ian Balding is likely to steer Crystal Spirit away from his brother Toby's Morley Street at Liverpool.

Both horses are entered in the two-and-a-half mile Sandeman Aintree Hurdle on Grand National day. But Ian Balding is unwilling to match his Sun Alliance Novice Hurdle victor against the champion hurdler, easy winner of the Liverpool event last year.

The Mumm Club Novices' Hurdle later in the day is the likely alternative, the Kingsclere trainer favouring that to Friday's Glenlivet Anniversary Hurdle, which is over the shorter trip of two miles.

☐ The trainer Stan Moore was fined £300 by the Jockey Club disciplinary committee yesterday for breaching the rules regarding the listing of a mare in his care, Home Rule.

☐ Pat Eddery travels to Maisons-Laffitte today to ride two horses for Andre Fabre. The champion jockey partners Khaled Abdulla's Dancing Brave colt True Brave in the Prix Clamert and Soleway in the Prix La Sega.

ICE HOCKEY

Crapper's return reinforces attack

By NORMAN DE MESQUITA

GREAT Britain have made a reasonable start in pool C on their return to the world championships after an absence of ten years.

Their 6-5 defeat at the hands of China on Saturday was frustrating: better shooting in the second period, when the Chinese goaltender made 26 saves, would surely have brought victory. The early stages of the game were important and, as the Great Britain coach, Alex Dampier, confirmed, the team made a hesitant start.

He said: "We were too cautious early on, but nobody knew what to expect. The shooting was too casual and we were a forward short, which caused some juggling of the lines. But the 7-2 win over North Korea was very encouraging and we proved to ourselves that we can score goals."

The self-control shown by the British players was also encouraging, as both the Chinese and Koreans carried their sticks very high. "We had to earn the respect of the Koreans," Dampier said, "but they were in fact the cleanest Korean team I have ever seen."

Great Britain play Denmark, the host nation, this evening. The Danes are big and strong, but it was impossible to assess their potential against a Belgium side that has conceded 26 goals in its first two games and scored only one.

Dampier thinks he knows how to deal with Denmark. "I do not think they can play very well laterally and if we stand up on our blue line and force them to dump the puck, we could put them off their game. Jamie Crapper's arrival will also help, giving us more forward options," he said.

Crapper had to remain at Bracknell, where he manages the ice rink, for a weekend skating competition, but joined the squad for yesterday's practice.

SANDOWN PARK

Selections

By Mandarin
2.15 Eastshaw.
2.50 Esha Ness.
3.20 Prince Nepal.
3.50 The Leggett.
4.20 ACRE HILL (nap).
4.55 The Argonaut.

By Thunderer
2.15 Eastshaw.
2.50 Esha Ness.
3.20 Prince Nepal.
3.50 Up And Coming.
4.20 STAR'S DELIGHT (nap).
4.55 Certain Light.

By Michael Seely
2.15 Eastshaw. 2.50 GOLDEN CELTIC (nap).

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.20 STAR'S DELIGHT.

Brian Beel's selection: 4.55 Certain Light.

Going: good **SIS**

2.15 RIGHT O'THE LINE HANDICAP CHASE (£4,146: 2m 4f 68yd) (6 runners)

101 F11-150 ALL JEFF 14 (B,CD,F,G,S) (Lady Joseph) C Brooks 7-11-10 J Osborne 88
102 1P/44-11 EASTSHAW 58 (D,G,S) (S Sainsbury) T Forster 9-10-8 C Llewellyn 96
103 411123 FARMLEA BOY 19 (D,BF,F,G,S) (R Lavelle) G Balding 11-10-5 R Guest ● 99
104 531-611 SKINNHILL 10 (B,D,F,G,S) (Mrs T Binnington) T Thomson Jones 7-10-1 A Tory 91
105 23042-3 KILBRITTAIN CASTLE 17 (CD,F,G,S) (W Whitbread) Mrs F Walwyn 15-10-0 K Mooney 98
106 10F511 BRONZE FINAL 29 (D,F,S) (S Mossop) J Gifford 8-10-0 E McKinley 96

Long handicap: Bronze Final 9-11.

BETTING: 6-4 Eastshaw, 9-2 Farmlea Boy, 5-1 All Jeff, 6-1 Skinnhill, 8-1 Kilbrittain Castle, 10-1 Bronze Final.

1990: THE LEGGETT 7-10-11 P Scudamore (6-5 fav) M Pipe 4 ran

FORM FOCUS ALL JEFF has failed to recapture form of his 1½l beating of Nodform at Chepstow (2m 4f, good) in recently; latest finished 35l 7th to Omerta at Cheltenham (3m, good to soft).

EASTSHAW highly-regarded; beat Fish Quay 8l at Leicester (2m 4f, good). FARMLEA BOY has run creditably since beating One More Knight 2½l at Kempton (3m, good) in December; latest 3½l 3rd to Socks Downe at Wincanton (2m 5f, good to soft). SKINNHILL beat Smithy Bear 8l at Chepstow (2m 4f, heavy). KILBRITTAIN CASTLE, 11 times course winner, 3½l 3rd to Amari King (2m 18yd, good to soft) here. BRONZE FINAL beat Sirrah Jay 3½l at Lingfield (2m 4f, soft).

Selection: EASTSHAW

2.50 BRITISH AEROSPACE RAPIER NOVICES CHASE (£4,172: 2m 4f 68yd) (8 runners)

201 543-912 ESHA NESS 13 (D,G,S) (P Bancroft) Mrs J Pitman 8-11-8 M Bowlby ● 99
202 1-11P1F GOLDEN CELTIC 10 (D,G,S) (Mrs H Brown) Miss H Knight 7-11-8 J Osborne 99
203 F11111 LAUNDRYMAN 10 (CD,G,S) (Burford District Laundry Co Ltd) S Mellor 8-11-8 M Perrett 91
204 230U/3 HIGH WARRIOR 24 (B,S) (R Thomas Williams) C Popham 8-11-0 B Powell 86
205 PF KELLY'S BLOOM 7 (D Bloor) D Bloor 9-11-0 H Davies —
206 24/5-382 MAN ON THE LINE 24 (C,D,F,G) (L Randall) R Akehurst 8-11-0 G Bradley 91
207 0P000-6 MISTER TICKLE 21 (C McDonagh) N Twiston-Davies 6-11-0 C Llewellyn —
208 P/02PSU PICK ROUNDSTONE 27 (P Langmead) J Gifford 8-11-0 E McKinley 86

BETTING: 11-4 Esha Ness, 3-1 Laundryman, 4-1 Golden Celtic, 6-1 Man On The Line, 10-1 others.

1990: ALL JEFF 6-11-8 P Scudamore (4-6 fav) C Brooks 6 ran

FORM FOCUS ESHA NESS beat MAN ON THE LINE (8lb better off) 3l on chasing debut at Newbury (2m 4f, good) and improved significantly on that when 2½l 2nd to Rolling Ball in Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham (3m, good to soft).

GOLDEN CELTIC beat Bonsai Bud 1½l at Fontwell (2m 4f, soft) with MAN ON THE LINE well-beaten 6th on penultimate start. LAUNDRYMAN beat Bignor Hill 20l at Lingfield (2m 4f, soft); previously beat Dare Say 8l over course and distance (good to soft). HIGH WARRIOR 25l last of 3 to Uncle Ernie at Hereford (2m, good).

MISTER TICKLE tailed off 6th to Roxall Clump at Warwick (2m, good to soft). PICK ROUNDSTONE best effort when 3½l 2nd to Punching Glory at Nottingham (2m, good to soft).

Selection: ESHA NESS

3.20 ROYAL ARTILLERY GOLD CUP CHASE (Amateurs: £3,663: 3m 118yd) (7 runners)

301 P-22RPS ROSCOE HARVEY 55 (C,F,G,S) (P Spicer) C Brooks 9-12-7 J Trice Rolph ● 99
302 2F44P0 SAN OVAC 16 (B,D,F) (O Wingate) C Brooks 8-12-3 A Smith Maxwell 85
303 503P-6P AH HELLO 61 (F) (J Lemon) J Bostock 10-12-0 J Beardsall 90
304 P2-21 PRINCE NEPAL 18 (CD,S) (Maj E Wilson) R Champion 7-12-0 G Oxley 90
305 /PFP/U-F MASTER TREASURE 26 (V) (Royal Artillery) P Shakespeare 9-11-3 C Sample —
306 0411/U3 NORSTOWN 8 (F,S) (Mrs A Sims) R Holder 9-11-3 Capt R Inglesant 91
307 0P44/ SILCA CHIAVI 1413 (F) (Mrs A Sims) Mrs A Sims 8-11-3 — —

BETTING: 6-4 Prince Nepal, 100-30 Roscoe Harvey, 5-1 Norstown, 8-1 San Ovac, 12-1 others.

1990: DE PLUVINEL 17-12-7 J Trice-Rolph (5-2) G Prest 9 ran

FORM FOCUS ROSCOE HARVEY 41l 5th to Ronans Birthday at Windsor (1m, good to firm); claims on form of 4½l 3rd to Assaglawi at Kempton (3m, good to firm) in November. SAN OVAC best recent effort when 15l 4th to Chals du Fondateur at Windsor (3m, good to firm). AH HELLO 45l 6th to On The Twist at Huntingdon (3m, good) on penultimate start. PRINCE NEPAL beat Water Wagtail 15l over course and distance (good to soft). MASTER PLEASURE fell at Ludlow (2m 4f, good to firm); earlier 4l 2nd to Wheaton at Tweseldown. NORSTOWN 16½l 3rd to Mulloch Brae at Wolverhampton (3m 1f, soft).

Selection: ROSCOE HARVEY

3.50 VSEL ALANBROOKE MEMORIAL HANDICAP CHASE (£6,937: 3m 118yd) (8 runners)

401 P33050 CUDDY DALE 13 (CD,F,G,S) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 8-11-10 D Murphy 95
402 PF/0F-F6 GAINSAY 12 (B,CD,G,S) (E Brown) Mrs J Pitman 12-11-4 B de Haan —
403 122283 KARAKTER REFERENCE 38 (D,F) (B Bolton) R O'Sullivan 9-11-2 D O'Sullivan (5) 92
404 0-33411 THE LEGGETT 8 (C,F,G,S) (A Ford) M Pipe 8-11-0 P Scudamore ● 99
405 P11P-31 UP AND COMING 11 (D,F,G) (Mrs C Wells) N Henderson 8-10-13 R Dunwoody 95
406 311221 LAUDERDALE LAD 25 (CD,F,S) (Hills Of Swindon Ltd) J King 9-10-0 J Kavanagh (3) 98
407 103-103 TUNS HILL 54 (CD,S) (B Escott) R Dickin 9-10-0 S Earle 88
408 02P5-04 MISSING MAN 54 (C,G) (Mrs L Simpson) J Gifford 11-10-0 E McKinley 86

Long handicap: Lauderdale Lad 9-12, Tuns Hill 9-10, Missing Man 8-9.

BETTING: 7-2 The Leggett, 9-2 Cuddy Dale, 6-1 Lauderdale Lad, Up And Coming, 13-2 Karakter Reference, 8-1 Gainsay, 10-1 Missing Man, 14-1 Tuns Hill.

1990: JOHN O'DEE 18 (F,G,S) 7-10-1 D Murphy (6-1) G Hubbard 4 ran

FORM FOCUS CUDDY DALE poor 5th behind Foyle Fisherman at Cheltenham (2m 4f, good to soft); better judged on Nk 2nd to Docklands Express in Racing Post Chase at Kempton (3m, good). GAINSAY mid-division when fell 12th.

GAINSAY faded 3 out to finish 37l 6th to Seagram in Ritz Club Chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good). KARAKTER REFERENCE well-beaten last of 3 behind Epsy at Windsor (3m, good to soft); previously beat Imadyna 1l (pair clear) when 12lb out of handicap at Kempton (3m, firm).

THE LEGGETT ridden out to beat Shady Road 3½l at Wolverhampton (2m 4f, soft). UP AND COMING beat Regardless (rec 19lb) 2½l at Wolverhampton (3m 1f, good).

LAUDERDALE LAD 2l 2nd to Farm Week at Lingfield (3m, good); subsequently beat Headin' On 8l at Ludlow (3m, good to firm).

TUNS HILL staying-on 11½l 3rd to Valassy at Towcester (3m 190yd, good) with MISSING MAN (1lb worse off) 11½l 4th; previously beat Trust Friend 12l at Cheltenham (3m 1f good to soft).

Selection: CUDDY DALE (nap).

4.20 ROYAL ORDNANCE HANDICAP CHASE (£4,094: 2m 18yd) (5 runners)

501 011272 STAR'S DELIGHT 14 (D,F,G,S) (F Barr) M Pipe 9-12-0 P Scudamore ● 99
502 425-1U2 ACRE HILL 17 (CD,F) (J Henderson) N Henderson 7-10-1 R Dunwoody 96
503 1-F2142 BREAKFAST CAR 57 (D,BF,F,G,S) (J Grist) D Grissell 9-10-0 J Osborne 96
504 21-1212 SPACIAL 52 (D,BF,F,G,S) (B Yard) N Gaselee 7-10-0 B Powell 99
505 4P42P0 JOHN O'DEE (C,D) (G Hubbard) F Murphy 8-10-0 J Twomey (7) 92

Long handicap: Breakfast Car 9-10, Spacial 9-10, John O'Dee 9-5.

BETTING: 13-8 Star's Delight, 11-4 Acre Hill, 4-1 Spacial, 9-2 Breakfast Car, 14-1 John O'Dee.

1990: CAMPSEA-ASH 6-10-1 D Murphy (7-1) G Hubbard 4 ran

FORM FOCUS STAR'S DELIGHT caught flat when 3½l 2nd to Aldino (rec 25lb) in Grand Annual Chase at Cheltenham (2m, good to soft); previously beat Knockbrack ¾l at Newbury (2m 160yd, good).

ACRE HILL 3½l 2nd to Naatell over course and distance; driven out to beat L B Laughts 1l in Henry VIII Novice Chase here in December. BREAKFAST CAR 10l 2nd to Shannagary at Plumpton (2m 4f, good); previously beat Southernair 6l at Fontwell (2m 4f, good).

SPACIAL 4l 2nd to Nos Na Gaoithe over course and distance latest start; made all to beat Al Hashimi 4l at Kempton (2m; good). JOHN O'DEE poor 7th behind Brunton Park here (3m 118yd, good to soft); beat Ballyweat 4l in 3-runner hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 4f, firm) in August.

Selection: STAR'S DELIGHT

4.55 RMC GROUP UBIQUE HUNTER CHASE (Amateurs: £2,145: 2m 4f 68yd) (14 runners)

601 U126/24 CERTAIN LIGHT 12 (CD,G,S) (Mrs A Campbell) Mrs A Campbell 13-12-6 P Hacking (3) 91
602 01F1-20 THE ARGONAUT 10 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Queen Elizabeth) Mrs F Walwyn 13-12-6 G Oxley (5) 96
603 1- CORRARDER 319 (F) (J S-Osbourne) J Smyth-Osbourne 7-12-2 J Smyth-Osbourne (7) 85
604 105-U GRANVILLE PARK 30 (D,F,G,S) (R Goodall) R Goodall 10-12-2 R Goodall (7) 90
605 530P25- PARISH RIGGED 328 (D,F,S) (D Bloor) D Bloor 13-12-2 D Bloor (7) 75
606 F/0513P- SUMMONS 287 (CD,F,G,S) (A Embiricos) Miss A Embiricos 12-12-2 Miss A Embiricos (7) 91
607 P/11-1RR TARQOGAN'S BEST 5 (D,F,G,S) (C Holmes) C Holmes 11-12-2 C Holmes (7) ● 98
608 22/2P35- ABBOTSHAM 382 (S) (O Carter) O Carter 6-11-12 P Scholfield (7) 75
609 65455-5 ABLE DAN 22 (F) (R Fidler) R Fidler 10-11-12 T Lacey (7) 82
610 PPUPU-U RIGHT CARD 16 (B,F,G,S) (J W Digby) J Wingfield Digby 13-11-12 J Wingfield Digby (7) —
611 10P/4-4P SCHLEMMER 22 (D,F,S) (M Goode) M Goode 9-11-12 J Trice-Rolph (7) 58
612 0040/3-U WHITERIVER GROVE 7 (F,G) Mrs G Russell Holmes 11-11-12 Miss J Cobden (7) —
613 3 CAWKWELL PRINCE 11 (R Billing) R Billing 11-11-8 K Whiting (7) 64
614 /U/P2-42 LATE DELIVERY 26 (D Kench) D Kench 9-11-8 N Rideout (7) 82

BETTING: 3-1 The Argonaut, 4-1 Certain Light, 11-2 Right Card, 8-1 Late Delivery, Summons, 10-1 Corrarder, Parish Rigged, 12-1 Granville Park, 12-1 others.

1990: SUMMONS 11-11-9 Miss A Embiricos (10-11 fav) Miss A Embiricos 8 ran

FORM FOCUS CERTAIN LIGHT 18l 4th to Lovely Citizen at Cheltenham (3m 2f, good); previously showed his class with a creditable 2½l 2nd to Lean Ar Aghaidh at Kempton (3m, good).

THE ARGONAUT lame when distant 9th behind Brunton Park here (3m 118yd, good to soft) latest start; won over same trip (good to firm) by 15l from San Ovac last March. CORRARDER beat Master Eryl 2½l at Stratford (2m 6f, good to firm).

GRANVILLE PARK beat Hand Over 1½l at Newbury (2m 4f, heavy) in February last year. SUMMONS ridden out to beat Team Approach 15l in this race last year. LATE DELIVERY 8l 2nd to Surf Board at Ludlow (2m, 4f, good to firm).

Selection: CERTAIN LIGHT

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
R Holder	5	15	33.3	M Bowlby	8	18	44.4
C Brooks	11	43	25.6	Mr P Hacking	4	9	44.4
M Pipe	14	59	23.7	Mr G Oxley	7	27	25.9
Mrs J Pitman	18	86	20.9	J Osborne	9	44	20.5
D Grissell	6	31	19.4	B de Haan	10	55	18.2
T Forster	14	74	18.9	P Scudamore	23	129	17.8

LEICESTER

Selections

By Mandarin
2.00 The Cuckoo's Nest.
2.30 Fort Hope.
3.00 Grecian Rebel.
3.35 Birstwith.
4.05 Sumonda.
4.35 Rock Breaker.

By Thunderer
2.00 Cool Parade.
2.30 Fort Hope.
3.00 Saint Vending.
3.35 Prime Warden.
4.05 Sumonda.
4.35 Rock Breaker.

Michael Seely's selection: 4.05 Sumonda.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.00 Mudaffar. 3.00 Grecian Rebel. 4.05 SUMONDA (nap).

Going: heavy **Draw: no advantage** **SIS**

2.0 KEYTHORPE MAIDEN STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,584: 7f) (9 runners)

1 (7) 00000- ARDENT GROOM 144 (A Merritt) T Jones 9-0 J Williams 76
2 (8) 200-34 BEE BEAT 17 (Austin Stroud & Co Ltd) E Wheeler 9-0 W Newnes 97
3 (6) 04- COOL PARADE 161 (P Bacon) S Norton 9-0 Paul Eddery 97
4 (5) 03- GIVENTIME 129 (J Lammiman) A Turnell 9-0 A Tucker (7) 79
5 (3) 40- MUDAFFAR 136 (A Al Shafar) R Armstrong 9-0 B Crossley ● 99
6 (4) PARTY'S OVER (M Strong) M Brittain 9-0 P Sedgwick —
7 (2) 0- Q-EIGHT 137 (I Al-Sagar) J Czerpak 9-0 N Adams —
8 (9) 00-0 THE CUCKOO'S NEST 17 (BF) (Kings Bloodstock Ltd) C Brittain 9-0 M Roberts 97
9 (1) DARK ROOTS (A Taylor) J Ringer 8-9 G Duffield —

BETTING: 2-1 Cool Parade, 3-1 Mudaffar, 7-2 The Cuckoo's Nest, 5-1 Bee Beat, 8-1 Giventime, 12-1 Q-Eight, 16-1 others.

1990: PLATINUM DISC 3-9-0 D McKeown (7-1) W Hastings-Bass 15 ran

2.30 BESCABY MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: winner £2,369: 5f) (3 runners)

1 (2) AUREOLE D'OR (P Savill) R Hollinshead 9-0 K Darley —
2 (1) FORT HOPE (Moss Side Racing Group) J Berry 9-0 J Carroll —
3 (3) LADY DOOLEY (Mrs P Knowles) J Wharton 8-9 J Williams —

BETTING: 8-11 Fort Hope, 9-4 Aureole d'Or, 9-2 Lady Dooley.

1990: SIR BASIL 2-9-0 A Clark (5-2) M Bell 4 ran

3.0 KIBWORTH CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,458: 1m 4f) (10 runners)

1 (6) 000- BILLION DOLLARBILL 147 (Mrs J Brookes) T Jones 9-4 J Williams —
2 (7) 005-400 CASTLE MERLIN 27 (T Mellor) R Ingram 9-0 A Mackay 95
3 (8) 082100- SAINT VENDING 140 (S) (M St Quinton) M Brittain 9-0 G Carter 81
4 (1) 5021- LONG FURLONG 182 (B,C,F) (P Lau) D Jermy 8-10 G Bardwell 98
5 (4) 63000- QUESTION OF HONOR 111 (J Morris) R Hollinshead 8-10 G Husband (5) 99
6 (5) 0- SATIN LOVER 318 (Mrs G Davison) A Davison 8-10 R Cament —
7 (9) 400003- TOUCHING TIMES 164 (Mrs H Mills) M Brittain 8-10 S Maloney (5) 96
8 (2) 05-3446 GRECIAN REBEL 31 (E Biddulph) M Bell 8-4 T Quinn ● 99
9 (3) 04000-6 BYE BYE BABY 21 (R Langton) S Dow 7-13 J Quinn 92
10 (10) 30040- ELUSIVE SPIRIT 154 (Mrs J Martin) J Scargill 7-13 A Munro 93

BETTING: 11-4 Grecian Rebel, 7-2 Touching Times, 9-2 Long Furlong, 5-1 Saint Vending, 8-1 Bye Bye Baby, 10-1 Elusive Spirit, Question of Honor, 12-1 others.

1990: BOLD STREET BLUES 3-9-4 K Darley (8-1) C Tinkler 14 ran

3.35 GREYHOUND HANDICAP STAKES (£3,158: 1m 2f) (15 runners)

1 (11) 065430- SALMAN 166 (F,S) (S Norton) S Norton 5-9-10 J Lowe 97
2 (13) 04100-3 BRECKENBROUGH LAD 5 (D,S) (C Greenall) T Barron 4-9-4 Alex Greaves (3) ● 99
3 (4) 0/0030/ FAIRWAY ROYALE 456 (Albury Racing Ltd) R Curtis 6-9-3 N Gwilliams (5) —
4 (9) 44005-6 BIRSTWITH 4 (D,F,S) (D Aykroyd) C W Elsey 5-9-2 Dale Gibson 93
5 (12) 1110-05 SHARQUIN 5 (CD,F,G) (M Murphy) M Brittain 4-9-2 S Maloney (5) 94
6 (7) 000500- BESCABY BOY 151 (F,G) (Pennells Estates Ltd) J Wharton 5-8-10 J Williams 98
7 (2) 505326 VITE VITE 25 (D,F) (E Robinson) D Morrill 5-8-9 Paul Eddery 97
8 (5) 34435-4 NON CONSTAT 10 (B,G) (T Mellor) R Ingram 7-8-9 A Mackay 98
9 (15) /05120- AL SHAREEF 311 (S) (H Davies) D Burchell 6-8-4 Dean McKeown 99
10 (6) 0400/00- PRIME WARDEN 94J (Dr G Mohan) R Holder 5-8-2 N Adams —
11 (10) 5/100/0- BURNDITCH GIRL 311 (S) (R Hughes) M Eckley 5-7-12 S Wood (5) —
12 (8) 401000- XAI-TANG 161 (S) (Andes Ltd) K White 4-7-11 A Shoults 93
13 (14) 000000- RONALD IVOR 194J (F) (Famel Securities) C Jackson 5-7-9 A McGlone —
14 (3) 001045- GARDA'S GOLD 8J (B,F) (G Brown) R Dickin 8-7-7 S Dawson 92
15 (1) 05/0- TOP VILLAIN 63J (B) (J Lammiman) A Turnell 5-7-7 NON-RUNNER —

Long handicap: Top Villain 6-12

BETTING: 5-1 Breckenbrough Lad, 11-2 Non Constat, 6-1 Salman, Sharquin, 7-1 Prime Warden, 8-1 Al Shareef, Birstwith, 10-1 Xai-Tang, Garda's Gold, 12-1 others.

1990: LOW DALBY 4-8-5 Dale Gibson (8-1) J Toller 11 ran

4.05 HARBOROUGH FILLIES GRADUATION STAKES (3-Y-O: £3,231: 1m) (6 runners)

1 (5) 241- SUMONDA 182 (C,F) (Sir Philip Oppenheimer) G Wragg 8-13 G Carter ● 99
2 (4) 05-2453 CARESS 10 (F) (E Birkinshaw) Mrs N Macauley 8-12 Dean McKeown 85
3 (1) 2212- GREEN'S CASSATT 276 (F) (R Green Fine Paintings) P Cole 8-12 T Quinn 72
4 (6) 0- CHANNON HILL 150 (Mrs R Hollinshead) R Hollinshead 8-8 M Humphries (7) —
5 (2) DON'T CRY (L Holliday) J Bethell 8-8 A Munro —
6 (3) FORZINA (C McKenna) M Blanshard 8-8 R Cochrane —

BETTING: 1-2 Sumonda, 4-1 Green's Cassatt, 8-1 Don't Cry, 12-1 Caress, 16-1 Channon Hill, 25-1 Forzina.

1990: LONDON PRIDE 3-8-8 T Quinn (4-1) P Cole 8 ran

4.35 BUTLER HANDICAP STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,684: 5f) (7 runners)

1 (4) 00020-1 ROCK BREAKER 5 (D,S) (R Thornhill) B McMahon 9-10 (7ex) J Lowe ● 99
2 (5) 882000- MINIZEN MUSIC 137 (D,F) (Minizen Ltd) M Brittain 9-7 A Munro 99
3 (1) 424300- ZONINA 193 (H Hopgood) R Hannon 9-2 R Perham (5) 90
4 (3) 164150- KINLET VISION 155 (D,F) (Wyre Foresters) J Berry 9-0 J Carroll 96
5 (6) 000-0 PICK AND CHOOSE 25 (J Rowles) J Leigh 8-13 Dean McKeown 88
6 (7) 004500- TIME LORD 171 (J Khan) L Holt 8-7 A McGlone 86
7 (2) 000- BARBARA'S CUTIE 214 (A Fearn) M Blanshard 8-7 G Baxter 80

BETTING: 6-4 Rock Breaker, 3-1 Kinlet Vision, 5-1 Minizen Music, 8-1 Time Lord, 10-1 Zonina, 12-1 Pick And Choose, 16-1 Barbara's Cutie.

1990: BARBEZIEUX 3-7-13 G Carter (20-1) D Wilson 12 ran

Course specialists

TRAINERS	Winners	Runners	Per cent	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	Per cent
L Holt	4	25	16.0	A Munro	12	71	16.9
M Eckley	5	33	15.2	K Darley	10	69	14.5
G Wragg	9	72	12.5	T Quinn	20	172	11.6
J Berry	8	64	12.5	Paul Eddery	22	198	11.1
C Brittain	9	88	10.2				
P Cole	15	148	10.1				

(Only qualifiers)

☐ Alan Munro was fined £150 for starting from the wrong stall on Elhidhud, who won the Alkham Claiming Stakes at Folkestone yesterday. He came out of stall four, instead of six. Allan Mackay, who finished second on Slangi Vah, should have been in stall four, but went into the No 6 berth because it was the only one left. He was fined £100.

Sandstone Arch qualifies in style

By BRIAN BEEL

EASTERN Chant, last season's winner of *The Times* Championship final, qualified from the North West and this area has produced two worthy challengers for this year's Towcester final in Sandstone Arch and Denslads, winners on Saturday of the two qualifiers at the Tanatside point-to-point.

Sandstone Arch, the 7-4 favourite, had won three times at Eyton in 1990 and again, with Charles Barlow in the saddle, showed his liking for the course by going on five fences from home to win by seven lengths from Charlie Magpie.

The previous Monday he had found the going too soft in a novice hunter chase at Wolverhampton, but will now return to the stiffer fences as the ground dries up.

Terry Lowndes's Denslads, whom he purchased at last September's Doncaster sales, is to be entered for the maiden hunter chase at Carlisle on Easter Monday after an impressive performance in the second division. His previous Flint and Denbigh win made him the market choice and he justified this support under Paddy Murphy, moving smoothly through the field to take up the running two out to beat Liseta by four lengths, with Tytherington in third place.

Dick Baimbridge saddled three winners at the Ross Harriers, Alison Dare was on two of these and Julian Pritchard, after winning the open on Scally's Daughter, rode the other, Sonydee, to complete his double. After this race the stewards fined John Grassick £50 for pulling up Angus Princess after riding a finish and believing he had won with one circuit still to go.

Philip Scholfield took his season's total to 14 and extended his lead for the men's title with a treble at the Lamerton. Mandy Turner broke her collar-bone at this meeting from a fall on Cornish Air after she had won the open partnering For A Lark.

Gunner's Flight, who was seemingly invincible in the West Country, more than met his match in Rodden Brook (Patrick MacEwan) in the open at the Weston and Banwell but his rider Robert Ainer had quick recompense, landing the odds on Oak Vale in the restricted.

The Red One, probably this year's most impressive recruit to point-to-pointing, continued in the winning vein under Wayne Burnell in the Cottesmore open. His winning time was faster than that of Padrigal's in the ladies' open, who was carrying 21lb less weight.

Yesterday's results

Folkestone

Going: Heavy

1.15 (1m 2f) 1, SAM THE MAN (W Newnes, 8-1); 2, Auction Time (S Whitworth, 7-2 fav); 3, Ndita (W Carson, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 7 Uninvited, 9 Al Sanil, 10 Douceur, Carnegie Deli (ur), 12 Musical Note (6th), 16 The Oil Baron, Sonic Signal (5th), 25 Tender Bid, 33 Carpet Capers, Harken Premier, Come To Good, Manoushka (4th). 15 ran. 2l, sh hd, ¾l, ¾l, nk. Miss B Sanders at Epsom. Tote: £7.20; £1.80, £1.30, £1.90. DF: £19.80. CSF: £34.77. 2min 15.5sec.

1.45 (5f) 1, VANBOROUGH LAD (J Williams, 40-1); 2, Try Leguard (T Williams, 3-1); 3, Master Shikari (W Ryan, 20-1). ALSO RAN: 15-8 fav Cranfield Comet (5th), 11-4 Miss Nosey Parker, 5 Slight Risk (6th), 16 Fair Share (4th), 40 Ali's Blaze, Excelled. 9 ran. 2½l, 7l, 1l, 1l, 4l. M Haynes at Epsom. Tote: £29.30; £4.50, £1.40, £5.40. DF: £50.30. CSF: £151.41. 1min 09.1sec.

2.15 (1m 2f) 1, ELHUDHUD (A Munro, 5-1); 2, Slangi Vah (A Mackay, 11-2); 3, Al Shany (T Williams, 5-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Permanently Pink (4th), 12 Hazara, 14 Master Tyke, 16 To Be Fair, 20 Cheeky Chaplin, Charter Lights (5th), Only Fair, 33 Great Hand (6th), Figaro, Derailed, Lace Parasol, Light On Her Toes. 15 ran. 5l, 5l, 4l, 5l, 2l. R Stubbs at Newmarket. Tote: £7.00; £2.00, £2.00, £1.30. DF: £11.10. CSF: £30.38. 2min 16.8sec.

2.45 (1m 4f) 1, RARE DETAIL (L Piggott, 3-1 fav); 2, Wincald (M Roberts, 7-2); 3, Nan's Boy (T Williams, 33-1). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Rustiman (6th), Lean'n Mean (4th). 7 Gabby Hayes (5th), 10 Queen of Dreams, 20 Dashing Style, Scandalize, 25 Economy Express. 10 ran. 3½l, ¾l, 1l, 25l, 2½l. Mrs L Piggott at Newmarket. Tote: £3.10; £1.70, £1.50, £4.40. DF: £4.80. CSF: £13.80. Tricast: £287.13. 2min 56.7sec.

3.15 (7f) 1, YEAR OF THE DRAGON (J Williams, 11-8 fav); 2, Prince Rooney (W Ryan, 12-1); 3, Friend of A Friend (A Munro, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 100-30 Arogoto, 4 Orba Gold (4th), 5 Tallah (6th). 12 Sno Marque, 33 Somersaulting (5th), Broughton's Gold, Hightown-Princess. 10 ran. 1½l, 1l, 2½l, 3½l, 1l. D Elsworth at Whitsbury. Tote: £2.50; £1.10, £5.00, £4.10. DF: £37.70. CSF: £20.17. 1min 35.00sec. After stewards' inquiry result stood.

3.45 (6f) 1, MOSSY ROSE (Ron Hills, 16-1); 2, Stratus (Pat Eddery, 5-4 fav); 3, Set Aside (J Williams, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 3 Pretty Poppy, 4 L'Eto (6th), 25 Sciacca (5th), Mister Major (4th). 7 ran. 1½l, ½l, 10l, 1½l, 25l. Pat Mitchell at Newmarket. Tote: £14.50; £2.30, £1.80. DF: £17.70. CSF: £37.43. 1min 23.8sec.

4.15 (1m 2f) 1, LATOUR (M Roberts, 5-6 fav); 2, Scent of Battle (J Williams, 8-1); 3, Dutch Czarina (W Newnes, 9-4). ALSO RAN: 20 Letts Green (4th), Secret Talent (5th), 33 Lord Randolph (6th), Telstream. 7 ran. 1½l, 3l, 10l, 12l, 12l. C Brittain at Newmarket. Tote: £1.80; £1.50, £2.70. DF: £4.40. CSF: £7.53. 2min 18.8sec.

4.45 (6f) 1, ZINBAQ (T Williams, 9-1); 2, Coppermill Lad (C Avery, 8-1); 3, Susan's Reef (R Price, 25-1); 4, Count Me Out (G Carter, 16-1). ALSO RAN: 7 fav Cronk's Quality (6th), 15-2 Midnight Lass (5th), 8 Grey Tudor, 10 Dawn's Delight, Gozone, Major Jacko, 16 Juvenara, Business As Usual, 20 Nilod Dow, Castle Cary, 25 Sunset Dreams, 40 Miss Moody. 16 ran. 2l, 1l, hd, ¾l, 2½l. C Benstead at Epsom. Tote: £7.60; £1.50, £2.10, £5.00, £15.60. DF: £36.60. CSF: £71.63. Tricast: £1,581.65. 1min 21.8sec.

Placepot: £370.80

Hexham

Going: heavy

2.15 (2m hdle) 1, POSSETIVE PLANT (L O'Hara, 11-8 fav); 2, Crosshot (K Jones, 3-1); 3, Prince Ceva (M Moloney, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Burn Bridge (ur), 25 Regal Smoke (4th), Zarbano (6th). Long Serving (5th), 33 Dee And Em, Jimmy Ringo (pu), The Dark Watch, 50 Roche Rosie (ur). Le Palley's Isle. 12 ran. 5l, 5l, 4l, 1l, 1l. L Lungo at Carrutherstown. Tote: £2.30; £1.10, £1.80, £2.50. DF: £5.60. CSF: £5.89.

2.45 (2m ch) 1, WAIT YOU THERE (A Orkney, 5-4 fav); 2, Fighting Finish (Mr K Johnson, 5-1); 3, Warwick Suite (P Niven, 8-1). ALSO RAN: 2 Arctic Skylight (f), 14 Merryacres (4th), 33 Ben Tirran (6th), The Pride Of Pokey (5th). 7 ran. NR: Arry Opeful 8l, 4l, 12l, 15l, 1½l H Alexander at Lanchester. Tote: £2.40; £1.90, £2.20. DF: £5.70. CSF: £8.06.

3.15 (3m hdle) 1, DAWN COYOTE (J Cornell, 10-1); 2, Home To Roost (N Leach, 12-1); 3, Vale Of Secrecy (R Hodge, 7-2 fav). ALSO RAN: 9-2 Ballymore Park (4th), 5 Foreign Knight (5th), 11-2 Mister Tuftie, 7 Arum Lily (6th), 8 Secret Finale, Gone Astray, 33 Wisconsin (pu). Maw Broon. 11 ran. ½l, 12l, ½l, 1½l, 7l. Mrs S Bradburne at Cupar. Tote: £11.90; £3.60, £3.20, £1.80. DF: £75.60. CSF: £117.99. Tricast: £467.88.

3.45 (2m 4f ch) 1, SHOON WIND (P Niven, 5-2); 2, Magwood (L O'Hara, 5-4 fav); 3, Choctaw (P A Farrell, 9-4). ALSO RAN: 11 Toddlin Hame (4th). 4 ran. NR: Preben Fur. 2l, 8l, 15l. M Hammond at Middleham. Tote: £4.40; £3.60. DF: £2.70. CSF: £5.90.

4.15 (2m hdle) 1, SEMINOFF (M Moloney, 20-1); 2, Ace Of Diamonds (Ger Lyons, 8-1); 3, Sir Speedy (S Turner, 10-1). ALSO RAN: Evens fav Caxton (5th). 5 Pondered Bid (6th), 13-2 Stand At Ease, 10 Dru Ri's Bru Ri (4th), 25 Lucky Lena, 33 Victory Boy, Highland River, Willy Mac, Hegler, Card Party. 13 ran. 6l, 3l, 5l, hd, 1½l. P Monteith at Rosewell. Tote: £27.80; £7.60, £1.90, £1.60. DF: £370.60. CSF: £164.51. Tricast: £1,548.40. No bid.

4.45 (3m ch) 1, BRONZE HEAD (Mr N Wilson, 11-2); 2, Blue Ravine (Mr S Bell, 25-1); 3, Meadow Green (Mr T Scott, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 8-11 fav Kilknockin (f). 4 First Shadow (ur). 11-2 Give Me A Break (pu). 6 ran. NR: Gunnawin. 8l, 10l. A Bonas at Saltburn-by-the-Sea. Tote: £8.90; £1.90, £3.30. DF: £33.10. CSF: £76.14.

5.15 (2m 4f hdle) 1, OUR HERO (K Doolan, 20-1); 2, Break The Chain (J Supple, 6-1); 3, Mayman (M Moloney, 5-2 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 5-2 jt-fav Towny Boy (4th), 4 Breaking Dawn (pu), 9 Integrity Boy, Lucy Minstrel (5th), 20 Bluehaven Flyer, 25 Dolly Prices, 33 Border Oak (6th), 66 Bishopsford, Friars Croft (pu), Little Saffrons (pu). 13 ran. NR: Roster. 1l, 1½l, 20l, ¾l, 1l. W Storey at Consett. Tote: £28.10; £4.80, £4.00, £1.30. DF: £95.00. CSF: £135.58. Tricast: £379.80.

Placepot: £937.80.

☐ Michael Stoute's Opera House is the new favourite at 12-1 for the Ever Ready Derby. An impressive winner at Leicester last year on his only two-year-old outing, Opera House has overtaken Peter Davies (16-1) in the betting for the Epsom classic.

HOCKEY

London's coach retained

By SYDNEY FRISKIN

LONDON have once again called on the Hounslow, England and Great Britain centre forward, Robert Thompson, as coach in the defence of the men's title in the British Universities Sports Federation championship which starts today, at the Wyncote playing fields, Liverpool.

The senior UAU team, which lost last year's final to London, is well stocked with leading players from Durham and Exeter but not the trio from Bristol, recent winners of the Commercial Union UAU championship, who are unavailable.

Cambridge will have a chance to avenge the 3-1 defeat in the University match when they meet Oxford in tomorrow's pool B match.

☐ As winners of their respective regional league, Cheltenham, Barford Tigers, Chelmsford, Formby, Bournemouth and Surbiton have all qualified for the second division of the national league next season. Surbiton made sure of winning the Pizza Express London League by drawing 1-1 on Saturday with Hampstead and Westminster.

CYCLING

Rivals fall to Lillywhite in last sprint

CHRIS Lillywhite took the role of Banana-Falcon's "pathfinder" in the absence of the team captain, Shane Sutton, at the weekend's start to the professional road-racing season on the one-mile circuit at London's Eastway (Peter Bryan writes).

Sutton, winner of last year's March Hare event, was absent with a broken right wrist after a training spill. But Lillywhite was a good replacement, winning in a sprint finish the fast 50-mile race that commemorated the centenary of *Cycling* magazine.

His victory, on the team's return from its training camp in Majorca, may be just the start of a year's domination by the only fully dedicated road-racing squad in Britain. it will leave shortly for events in France and Italy, in preparation for the defence of its 1990 Milk Race title.

Wales's two golden girls, the Commonwealth Games sprint champion, Louise Jones, and the world's best points rider, Sally Hodge, showed good form at Eastway. Returning to competition after a year's absence, Hodge finished only inches behind Jones, the winner.

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Woosnam relishes his major challenge

Mitchell Platts, Golf Correspondent, examines the rise and rise of Ian Woosnam, a man in search of the game's major prizes

IAN Woosnam, who won the New Orleans Classic on Sunday after a play-off with Jim Hallet, has never shirked a challenge.

As a seven-year-old he earned the nickname "Tiger" at a holiday camp by winning in the boxing ring even though the opposition towered over him.

On his father's farm at St Martin's, where Shropshire marches with the Welsh border, he would stack in one day 5,000 bales each weighing more than 60lb. As a *junior golfer in Shropshire*, he collected a prize as runner-up, then, looking at the winner, said: "I'm going to beat you one day, Sandy Lyle."

Woosnam has some way to go to emulate Lyle, winner of the Open and the Masters but, with his victory in New Orleans, he overcame the last *psychological* obstacle barring his way to winning one of the major championships.

Woosnam limited his opportunities of winning on American soil by refusing to play there full time, but he remained aware that Tony Jacklin, Severiano Ballesteros, Nick Faldo and Lyle all won US Tour events before winning a major championship.

"What I said in the past about not wanting to win a major championship was all a sham," Woosnam said. "I want to win a major championship more than anything. But I've always taken the view, what with all the hype and everything, that it was best for me *to diffuse* the issue by saying it didn't matter. That, however, simply isn't the case. It does bother me."

Woosnam has matured. He has also benefited from a two-month break in the winter. By winning the Mediterranean Open in his first tournament back earlier this month, he showed that he had lost none of the conviction with which he played in *1990*, when he won five times, including the World Match Play Championship, and finished No. 1 in the Volvo Order of Merit.

He swelled his European earnings to £2,292,210 by successfully defending the Mediterranean Open and the $180,000 he won in New Orleans increased his winnings on the US Tour to around $450,000. His career earnings are in the region of $5 million.

"It would be nice to be the top earner in the record books," Woosnam said. "But I don't want to be like Tom Kite: a big money-winner without a major championship to my name." Kite, with $7 million, has won more than any other golfer.

Woosnam, naturally enough, was inspired as a youngster by the deeds of Tom Watson and Gary Player. "I thought Watson had the perfect swing," Woosnam said. "Player, of course, was only little but he was beating guys twice his size. *I liked* his fighting spirit. He never gave up."

To win in New Orleans, Woosnam did not carry out his threat to switch putters from a new silver Ping to his favourite old Zebra, with which he retained his Mediterranean Open.

"I thought the law of averages would work out and they did," he said. A 25-footer on the 1st green and two 15-footers on the 3rd and 4th greens overtook Hallet, who recovered from a dismal start to force the play-off with five birdies in his last nine holes.

In the play-off, the players halved the 16th in a par-four and Woosnam won when Hallet bunkered his tee-shot at the short 17th and just failed to explode his ball into the cup. The ball ran over the hole and stopped ten feet past. He missed the putt. "When Jim nearly holed that 15-yard sand shot, I thought back to last year's tournament when David Frost beat Greg Norman by holing out from a *bunker at the last hole*," Woosnam said.

Woosnam will miss next week's Houston Open, the last tournament before the Masters. Instead, he is visiting his Australian friend, Norman, in Palm Beach to do some fishing.

"*I might just take down this* trophy to rub it in," Woosnam said in a reference to Norman's runner-up positions in 1989 and 1990. "I'm only kidding," he added.

LEADING FINAL SCORES (US unless stated): 275: I Woosnam (GB), 73, 67, 68, 67; J Hallet, 69, 71, 65, 70 (Woosnam won play-off at second extra hole). 277: T Sieckmann, 71, 68, 70, 68. 278: J Huston, 72, 70, 68, 68. 279: T Simpson, 71, 72, 71, 65; R Black, 69, 74, 66, 71; J Edwards, 73, 71, 64, 71. 280: C Byrum, 72, 72, 68, 68; K Knox, 68, 75, 66, 71. 281: M Smith, 73, 70, 71, 67; P Blackmar, 67, 77, 66, 71; W Mayfair, 67, 73, 68, 73. 282: B Lohr, 68, 74, 70, 70; J Nicklaus, 68, 69, 74, 71. **Other British score:** 290: A Lyle, 72, 73, 74, 71.

U.S. WINNERS

Tony Jacklin was the first European player in the modern era to win in the United States. His record, and that of the men who followed, is given below.

1968	A Jacklin	Jacksonville Open
1970	A Jacklin	US Open
1972	A Jacklin	Jacksonville Open
1978	S Ballesteros	Greater Greensboro
1980	S Ballesteros	The Masters
1981	P Oosterhuis	Canadian Open
1983	S Ballesteros	The Masters
	S Ballesteros	Westchester Classic
1984	N Faldo	Heritage Classic
1985	B Langer	The Masters
	B Langer	Heritage Classic
	S Ballesteros	USF & G Classic
1986	A Lyle	Greater Greensboro
1987	A Lyle	Players Championship
	K Brown	Southern Open
1988	A Lyle	Phoenix Open
	A Lyle	Greater Greensboro
	A Lyle	The Masters
	S Ballesteros	Westchester Classic
1989	N Faldo	The Masters
1990	N Faldo	The Masters
	J-M Olazábal	World Series of Golf
1991	I Woosnam	USF & G Classic

TENNIS

Courier's choice begins to pay off

From ANDREW LONGMORE
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT
KEY BISCAYNE

THE decision to opt for tennis and not baseball early in his sporting career is starting to pay dividends for Jim Courier. Two weeks ago, Courier won his first important tour title in Indian Wells; on Sunday, *he* won his second, worth $179,000, when he beat David Wheaton 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 to become the 1991 Lipton champion and the first in the seven-year history of the tournament to earn his money in a best-of-three-set final.

Inevitably, the decision to shorten the final was dictated by ABC television, which *was more* concerned with the opening matches in the World League of American Football, despite the presence of two all-American boys in the Lipton final.

Not that the length of the match would have made much difference to the result, because Wheaton's spirit was broken the moment he gave Courier, the No. 13 seed, the final break in the third set. For all the pomp of his stars and stripes headband, Wheaton is a little faint-hearted when circumstances are against him, which is probably the reason he is still ranked in the mid-40s. As he has proved here by beating Stefan Edberg and Andre Agassi, the No. 1 and No. 3 seeds, both in straight sets, he is capable of much better things than his record and his ranking suggests.

Until three weeks ago, much the same could have been said of Courier, who at the age of 20 is one year younger than Wheaton. Courier is from Dade City, a town of about 7,000 people just a few miles down the road *from Tampa. The one industry* in the town is orange juice and Courier's physique and brimming good health is a tribute to the quality of the local product.

When he was aged 14, Courier could have turned to baseball, but, for no particular reason, he chose tennis. "I didn't do it for the money, that's for sure. It would have been a dumb decision from that point of view. You can earn a lot more in baseball. To be honest, I preferred baseball as a game but I was No. 2 in Florida at tennis at the age of 13 and not No. 2 in baseball," he said.

As he hovered round the top 20 while contemporaries like Pete Sampras and Michael Chang emerged from nowhere to win grand-slam titles, Courier must have wondered *if* he had made the right choice. But successive titles have propelled *him into the top ten* for the first time and he has beaten three top-ten players — Agassi, Sánchez and Forget (twice) — along the way.

"It's all coming together now. I can't tell you why. I feel like I can compete with anyone at the moment," he said.

I still have doubts about his nerve and his stamina, but the former will be improved by his first experience of Davis Cup, in Mexico City, of all places, next week. Whether that will toughen him up sufficiently to make him competitive for two weeks on clay in time for the French Open is doubtful, but he will be an even better player in a fortnight.

On reflection, ABC probably made the right decision to curtail the final because it was hardly the sparkling finale the ATP wanted for the "jewel in the crown" of its tour. The *group of locals who canoed up* the river to protest at the decision to build a permanent $16 million, 14,000-seat stadium on the Lipton site, seemed to be having more fun than the spectators. "Buy Tetleys and save a tip," one banner read, a reference to the humble origins of the site, which a minority claim was set aside for public recreation not a professional tennis tournament.

Not until midway through the third set did Courier cast off his strangely casual air and take the gifts Wheaton was offering. He broke to 4-3, thanks to a double fault and a missed forehand volley by Wheaton, and held his service twice to take the title. But his best shot was a baseball-type swing with his racket handle which would have earnt him a home run in baseball but cost him a code violation for ball abuse. "I knew I should have signed for the Reds," he said.

RESULTS: Men: Singles: Final: J Courier (US) bt D Wheaton (US), 4-6, 6-3, 6-4. **Women: Doubles: Final:** M J Fernandez (US) and Z Garrison (US) bt G Fernandez *(US) and J Novotna* (Cz), 7-5, 6-2.

ATHLETICS

British ambitions in cross country pinned on Irvine

From DAVID POWELL, ATHLETICS CORRESPONDENT, ANTWERP

BRINGING world cross-country titles back to Britain and Ireland, once a habit, appears out of the question in the foreseeable future unless Liz McColgan makes it one of her priorities. Bringing the championships themselves back to the British Isles has more of a fighting chance.

African dominance was greater *than ever here on* Sunday and, since it extends to the junior ranks, there seems no prospect of change. The continent filled eight of the 12 senior team and individual medal positions and, ominously perhaps, Kenyan success is no longer the preserve of men.

There was nothing new in the men winning junior and senior team titles, but that the senior women this time complemented junior triumph was new. Outside Africa, Britain produced the best teams, ahead of the United States, other European nations and Australia.

Yet the only medal brought home was McColgan's bronze and, since these championships were, to her mind, little more than a covenience for testing her progress towards the world track championships next summer, after giving birth four months ago, *Britain* may not find her such a willing team member in future.

However, one assumes she would be unable to resist a world championship in Scotland, for which a strong play is to be made by Irvine Development Corporation. Furthermore, *by Irvine's* proposed date, 1994, McColgan could have a notable Scottish accomplice in Hayley Haining. Haining, from Dumfries, produced Britain's second-best performance of the championships, finishing seventh in the junior women's race.

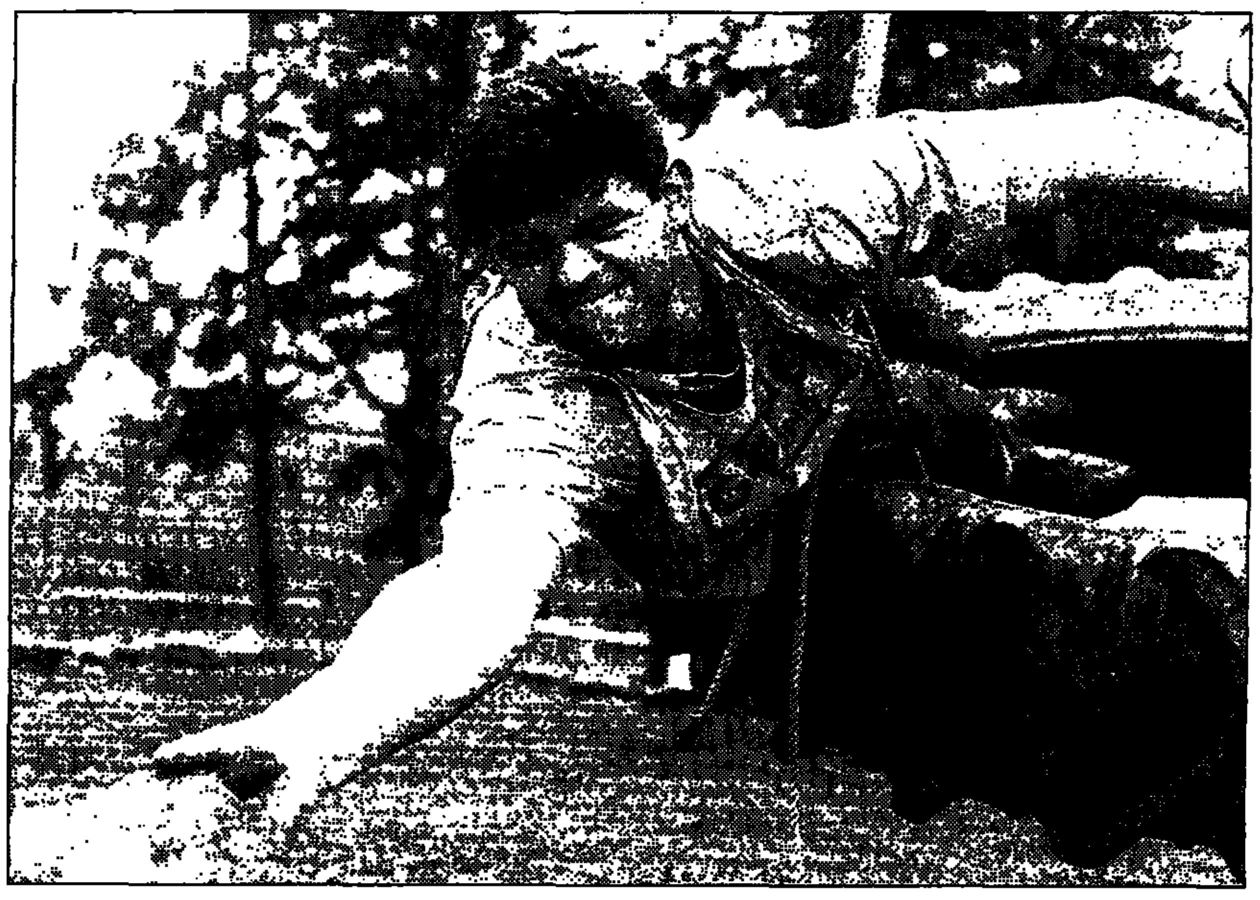
Colin Roberts, Irvine's representative here to make a cost and value assessment, returned home with enthusiasm. "We have got the facilities and the course and I would like to think that we will be in Boston next year (for the *1992* championships) putting in a bid," Roberts said. A budget of between £250,000 and £500,000 would be required and Roberts's task now is to find sponsorship. In addition, the British Athletic Federation (BAF) must endorse any application to the International Amateur Athletic Federation.

Ian Clifton, the chairman of the organising committee when the championships were last held in Scotland, in 1978, is also keen. "I'm sure we can get sufficient financial backing," he said.

Dublin is one of two runners for the 1993 championships — *Amorebieta in Spain*, being the other — and Birmingham is expected to show interest in staging the championships and deny Irvine exclusivity in seeking BAF approval.

Bud Baldaro, the national coach, is hoping, meanwhile, *to persuade administrators* to support British cross country training camps designed to try to close the gap on the Africans. Eamonn Martin, who favours the concept, rates the world cross country as the hardest title to win in the sport. There are three times as many Africans as in any Olympic Games.

The Africans' success is not due entirely to altitude, according to the Kenyan team manager, Sam Matu: "We live in hard conditions and right from the word go, you work and walk to school."



Tanzania bound: Andrew Street stretches to keep a log off the ground during the Camel Trophy selection finals

Two Britons stay the course

From KEITH BLACKMORE
IN JAMBVILLE, FRANCE

A SALES executive from Worcestershire and an agricultural engineer from south Humberside will represent Britain in the Camel Trophy, the international driving and endurance event, which this year takes place over 1,000 miles of difficult terrain in Tanzania and Burundi.

Andrew Street, aged 26, and Timothy Dray, aged 30, emerged from a strong British quartet which took part in the international selection finals here at the weekend. The other two, David Harrison, from Scotland, and Timothy Postgate, from Essex, stand by as reserves.

Three days of trials put 68 men from 17 countries through tests of skill, endurance and strength which, among other things, required them to wade through waist-high mud and clamber across a rope walkway 70 feet above ground. All four of the British competitors impressed throughout and it seems likely that Street and Dray will be among the favourites when the Camel Trophy begins in Dar es Salaam on May 9.

Street was one of the reserves last year, but this time he was among the leaders from the first run of the national selection trials at Eastnor Castle, Herefordshire, last month. He completed the trial at the Chateau de Jambville with an astonishing performance in a pioneering test which ended in a daunting assault course.

Street said yesterday he was thrilled to be selected. "I have been concentrating on my running since October. Last year, I was rugby fit, but when you need to maintain effort for three days at a time you need much more," he said.

Dray described his selection as like "a dream coming true". He had applied for a place on the team every year since Britain began taking part in 1986, but this was the first time he had reached the selection trials. Once he had been picked for the national trial, he built an assault course in his garden, an investment which paid off here. His agility and strength caught the eye of most observers as well as of the selectors.

The Britons were no less impressive when a real emergency superseded an off-road driving test in remote woodlands on Friday. Brian Pearson, one of the Land Rover instructors, fractured an ankle but the British team, having completed a first aid course earlier in the day, treated him until an ambulance arrived.

SQUASH RACKETS

Jahangir suggests a return

By COLIN MCQUILLAN

TWO forceful winning performances in Cologne over the weekend, spanning three-and-a-quarter hours on court against the world's two highest-ranked players, suggests *that* Jahangir Khan can achieve a second impressive comeback in his extraordinary career.

All the signs were that Jahangir, aged 27, was on the decline. However, in Cologne on Saturday and Sunday, he defeated both Chris Robertson, of Australia, and the world champion, Jansher Khan, and said: "I played the way I used to."

Tonight in Cardiff, he again meets Robertson, the world No. 2, at first-string in a Pimm's League match between his L and P Lambs side and Leekes Wizards. Then it is onto Glasgow on Wednesday for the start of a Scottish Open championship that seeds him opposite Chris Dittmar, of Australia.

BASKETBALL

Hidden benefit in Worthing defeat

By NICHOLAS HARLING

THEIR attendances are bigger than ever before but the recession has bit as tightly into the finances of Worthing Bears as any club. A capacity crowd of 1,078 watched the Sussex club's Carslberg League play-off against Sunderland, but, with no match sponsor to augment the costs, it was with a tinge of barely concealed relief that the Worthing directors tolerated Sunderland's 107-104 success.

They know that the likelihood of Sunderland repeating that win at Crowtree on Thursday will spare Worthing a second expensive trip to Wearside next Sunday. Had Worthing won on Saturday, as well they might, but lost on Thursday, they would have been forced to make the 750-mile round trip a second time to decide the best-of-three quarter-final.

"We can't forget the financial consequences," Colin Smith, the Worthing *director, said.* "I feel for the players. They wanted their little bit of glory, but the fact that they didn't win is a hidden benefit. It would have cost us a lot of money to go to Sunderland again."

Sunderland, of course, have every sympathy with Worthing's plight, being no strangers to financial crises, or cash-flow problems, as Dave Elderkin, their coach, would have it. Yet there were no problems whatsoever as Sunderland raced into a 20-point lead before Ronnie Baker (29 points) transformed Worthing.

Worthing's trouble was that when the crunch came, Hubbard and Heron took — and missed — the crucial three-pointers, instead of Baker, who had already sunk three.

Even closer was the match in Manchester where Kris Kearney's shot 11 seconds from time brought Giants victory by 83-82 *over Thames Valley Tigers.*

MOTOR RACING

Senna is shifted off stage

From NORMAN HOWELL IN SÃO PAULO

DESPITE Ayrton Senna's remarkable victory in the Brazilian grand prix on Sunday, the McLaren-Honda team failed to command centre stage. Rather it was the comparison in the displays of the Williams-Renault and Ferrari teams that was the focus of critical attention.

The decision by Williams to field a new car from the start of the season was a brave one. Nigel Mansell confessed that he was worried about the late completion of the car and the small amount of testing that had been done with it.

Mansell may have been right about himself — he has failed to finish in both races so far. His team-mate, Riccardo Patrese, however, has benefited from the new atmosphere in the team, and took the Adrian Newey-*designed car to second place in* Brazil. It may be that his softer driving style enabled him to finish on the podium: after the race it emerged that he, like Mansell, had suffered problems with the new push-button gearbox, but managed to nurse the car to the finish.

Ferrari chose the safe options of minimal chassis re-design and the odd tweak to the engine. After all, by the end of last season, the Ferrari was superior to the McLaren in every area: the difference was Senna.

It was felt at Maranello, the town near Modena where the team is based, that reliability would be the winning ingredient, as the McLaren would be starting the season with a new V12 engine. The Ferrari proved reliable enough, with points gained in the two races this *season, but on their showing so* far they are no match for the McLaren or indeed the Williams.

In Brazil, both Alain Prost and Jean Alesi complained that the car was very difficult to drive, which points to a chassis or suspension problem, and that their engine lacked power when coming out of bends.

There is a month before the next race and all teams will be working feverishly to improve their cars in time for the San Marino grand prix. But whereas Williams will be working to fulfil the undoubted potential of a brand-new package of car, engine, and driver, Ferrari appear to have reached the limits of their present model. And this will not allow their talented drivers the right weapon to compete at the highest level of the sport.

BOWLS

Gallant Holt unable to stop Ottaway

By DAVID RHYS JONES

JOHN Ottaway used his piston-like delivery to win the All England champion of champions singles title for the second time at Wellingborough yesterday, beating Ian Peacock 21-17.

Peacock, who chipped his contact lens overnight, spent his lunch hour dashing to Northampton to acquire a replacement after beating David Holt 21-14 in the semi-finals.

He matched Ottaway until the tenth end.

RESULTS: EBBA Champion of Champions Singles: Quarter-finals: P Hobday (Victory) bt A King (Bowlers Manchester), 21-15; D Holt (Blackpool Bor) bt M Elding (Addlethorpe), 21-5; J Ottaway (Wymondham Dell) bt C Rumsby (Felixstowe), 21-20; I Peacock (Consett) bt G Hatherall (Westlecot), 21-16. **Semi-finals:** Ottaway bt Hobday, 21-5; Peacock bt Holt, 21-4. **Final:** Ottaway bt Peacock, 21-17.

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday March 30 unless stated

FIRST DIVISION
1 A Villa v Everton
2 Derby v Arsenal
1 Liverpool v QPR
1 Man City v South'pton
2 Norwich v Man Utd
1 Sheff Utd v Luton
2 Sunderland v C Palace
X Tottenham v Coventry
1 Wimbledon v Nottm F

Not on coupons: Chelsea v Leeds

SECOND DIVISION
1 Barnsley v Plymouth
2 Bristol R v Brighton
1 Charlton v West Brom
2 Leicester v Millwall
X Middlesbro v Ipswich
X Notts Co v Blackburn
1 Oxford v Hull
X Portsmouth v Bristol C
1 Port Vale v Watford
X Swindon v Newcastle
2 Wolves v Sheff Wed

Not on coupons: Oldham v West Ham (Friday)

THIRD DIVISION
X Bolton v Southend
1 Bradford C v Fulham
X Brentford v Birmingham
2 Chester v Rotherham
X Exeter v Wigan
1 Grimsby v Reading
1 Hudd'field v Shrewsbury
X Leyton O v Bury
2 Mansfield v Bourn'm'th
1 Preston v Crewe
2 Swansea v Stoke

Not on coupons: Tranmere v Cambridge (Friday)

FOURTH DIVISION
1 Burnley v Chest'field
X Carlisle v Cardiff
1 Darlington v Aldershot
X Halifax v Scarboro
1 Hereford v Wrexham
1 Lincoln v Torquay
2 Maidstone v Doncaster
1 North'pton v Scunthorpe
X Peterboro v Blackpool
1 Walsall v Gillingham
1 York v Rochdale

Not on coupons: Stockport v Hartlepool (Friday)

GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE
1 Altrincham v Barnet
X Boston v Kid'minster
1 Colchester v Yeovil
1 Merthyr v Cheltenham

SCOTTISH PREMIER
1 Celtic v Motherwell
1 Dundee U v St Johnst'ne
2 Dunf'mline v Rangers
2 Hibernian v Aberdeen
2 St Mirren v Hearts

SCOTTISH FIRST
1 Airdrie v Falkirk
2 Brechin v Clyde
2 Clydebank v Dundee
2 Forfar v Meadowb'k
1 Kilmarnock v Hamilton
1 Morton v Raith
1 Partick v Ayr

SCOTTISH SECOND
Not on coupons: Arbroath v Stenhousemuir; Berwick v East Stirling; Dumbarton v Montrose; East Fife v Stranraer; Queen of the South v Cowdenbeath; Queen's Park v Albion; Stirling Albion v Alloa

TREBLE CHANCE (home teams): Tottenham, Notts County, Portsmouth, Swindon, Bolton, Brentford, Exeter, Leyton Orient, Carlisle, Halifax, Peterborough, Boston, Wimbledon, Barnsley, Oxford, Bradford City, Darlington, Hereford, Lincoln, York, Colchester, Celtic.

BEST DRAWS: Notts County, Swindon, Bolton, Leyton Orient, Peterborough

AWAYS: Arsenal, Crystal Palace, Sheffield Wednesday, Bournemouth, Clyde.

HOMES: Liverpool, Sheffield United.

FIXED ODDS: Homes: Liverpool, Bradford City, Darlington, Lincoln, Colchester. **Aways:** Arsenal, Sheffield Wednesday, Clyde. **Draws:** Swindon, Bolton, Peterborough.

● Vince Wright

Sympathising with Nigel from the armchair

By HENRY KELLY

SPORT ON TELEVISION
THE WEEK IN REVIEW

I AM getting seriously worried about my mental state: I actually enjoyed, and started to get excited about watching, the highlights of the Brazilian grand prix, an extremely fast motor race in which the local hero, Ayrton Senna, won a popular victory in front of his home crowd, and in front of me slumped in front of the box on Sunday night.

Nigel Mansell came nowhere because his car went from one gear to another one which he did not want. In the old days, he would have *double-de-clutched or some* such manoeuvre, but now it seems the gears are somewhere else in the car and you press buttons to change them.

I have an automatic job myself, though I must admit it is occasionally a bit sluggish leaving traffic lights, so I have great sympathy with Nigel. We car people understand one another's problems. As the prime minister would say: "Oh! Yes!"

Of course, another, probably more fun, way of following grand prix motor racing is to go advert-spotting. The viewers of the televised highlights get the best of all *possible worlds if they play* this game. The drivers, going a mere 150 or so, probably see a continuous blur; the cheering crowds only see the bits they are near; we get the lot.

Thus, if you have a mind to it, you can keep up with or even beat wonderful Murray Walker as he tells you the gap between drivers. You see, if you spot that Ayrton has flashed past the *Agip* sign and got up to the *Chevrolet* advert before Nigel has flashed past the *Elf* notice, then you can work it out in a flash that Nigel is 4.3sec behind. It's a doddle.

It is clear to me from looking at the cars that representatives of most of the world's major companies must come down to the pits first thing in the morning and put their company stickers all over each vehicle. In no sport I know is there so much advertising, and I *suppose the possible rewards* make it all worthwhile. As they flashed past on Sunday, I counted 11 different adverts on cars and the same number of billboards around the track. I bet there were a dozen more I did not catch.

Altogether more sedate advert-spotting was on BBC2 on Sunday afternoon when the mild Chris Rea introduced a programme called *Rugby Special*, which is, of course, *Rugby Union Special*, since it covers only that sport. It was excellent this weekend, with a club game from England and one from Wales (sponsors, complete with name logos on BBC screens, Heineken and Courage), which showed British club rugby at its best.

For rugby followers who do not discriminate between the codes, Saturday afternoon's game live on BBC1 was a cracker: true, the record books will show that *Wigan led by 20-0 at half*-time against Oldham and eventually won 30-16. Experts may scoff at the way Oldham were overrun; for those of us just happy to let a good rugby league game wash over us there were some great running movements and excellent play.

I am a fan of athletics on television and the coverage of the world cross country championships from Antwerp at least gave us the consolation of wee Liz McColgan getting a bronze medal. I know little of the coaching manual's recommendations of where the arms and hands should be in long-distance running, though I seem to remember Gordon Pirie's swinging by his sides. Liz McColgan's arms, on the other hand, and in contrast to most of the African women runners, seem to go out at an angle from her body as if she were *elbowing someone out of the* way. Maybe it makes no difference, but it just shows you that with good television coverage of a sporting event there is often more to talk about and watch than just the event itself.

Channel 4 covered the opening of the *Flat* race season from Doncaster, with Amenable's win in the Lincoln when ridden by Alex Greaves the highlight. She says she is fed up with being dubbed "Queen of the Turf" just because she is a girl and wants to be regarded just as another jockey. On Saturday's performance she is at least as good and probably better *than a heck of a lot of* her male opponents. She kept her horse steady and balanced, picked off tiring horses and used her whip to good — and fair — effect to win, almost going away.

For me the highlight of the weekend was when John McCririck, who had found a pretty young girl who had backed a winner, threw his arms around her and with a knowing chauvinist wink said to camera: "I'm off with Melanie." His colleague, Jim McGrath, chipped in with: "Surely Melanie can do better than that." I loved it.

مكبرة عن الاصل

FOOTBALL

Selection unlikely to be problem for Northern Ireland

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

BILLY Bingham, the manager of Northern Ireland, may encounter many problems during the course of the next 48 hours, but team selection is unlikely to be one of them. Bingham's careful shepherding of his squad upon arrival in Belgrade yesterday evening was understandable, for, with just 16 fit players at his disposal, he could not afford to be careless with a precious cargo.

Having lost Taggart, of Barnsley, McDonald, of Queen's Park Rangers, and Danny Wilson of Sheffield Wednesday, from his initial squad, Bingham, by his own admission, is down to the bare bones for tomorrow's European championship qualifying group four fixture against Yugoslavia.

It is a distressing, if not altogether unfamiliar, situation for a manager who has almost warmed to the fact that one of the prerequisites of the post which fills is an ability to transform water into wine.

Bingham, who has drafted in Quinn, of West Ham United, and Fleming, of Barnsley, as late replacements, is expected to delay announcing his side until shortly *before the kick-off, but* with every player guaranteed either a place in his starting line-up or on the substitute's bench, there is no great sense of anticipation or competition.

Northern Ireland's chances of claiming the group's solitary qualifying place for the competition's final stages in Sweden next summer are, at best, remote, but the squad is awash with confidence.

"We have conjured up some terrific results in some funny places in the past," Ian Dowie, the forward who last week completed a £480,000 transfer from Luton Town to West Ham United, said. "The Irish are often at their best when their backs are against the wall. We need a result to keep our hopes of qualification alive."

Having won with some comfort in Cork last November, the England Under-21 team should go in tonight's European Under-21 championship group seven match at Brentford with a reasonable degree of confidence.

With his squad changing almost daily, however, Lawrie McMenemy was in a cautious mood and has not yet named his team. There was one bright spot for McMenemy yesterday. The loss of Lee Sharp to the senior squad was quickly compensated for by the unexpected arrival of Rodney Wallace, the Southampton winger who had orignally withdrawn because of a court case.

After being remanded on bail, Wallace turned up to join the squad yesterday. Attempts to persuade John Ebrell, hitherto the team's captain, to take his place with the squad, were unsuccessful. Everton insisted the player was unfit with a virus and Chris Vinnicombe, of Glasgow Rangers, will replace him as captain.

Although the changes have affected McMenemy's preparations for a game which England must win after their home defeat by Poland, last year, they should still not find the task beyond them.

Mark Hughes won the Professional Footballers' Association Player of the Year Award for the second time in three years last night. His Old Trafford colleague, Lee Sharpe, aged 19, was named Young Player of the Year.

Wrexham-born Hughes, aged 27, beat Gordon Strachan, of Leeds United, into second place and Paul Gascoigne, of Tottenham Hotspur, into third.

The Romanian World Cup defender, Stefan Iovan, has completed a £60,000 move to Brighton and will arrive in England on Thursday.

OVERSEAS FOOTBALL RESULTS

AFRICAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: First round, second leg: Maxaquene (Moz) 0, Dynamos (Zim) 2 (1-7 on agg); Asante Kotoko (Gha) 1, ASFA Yennega (Burkina Faso) 0 (1-1 on agg. Yennega win 4-3 on pens); Black Devils (Congo) 2, Primeiro d'Agosto (Ang) 1 (2-1 on agg); Entente Sportif Setif (Alg) 7, ASC Linguere (Sen) 1 (7-2 on agg); DC Motema Pembe (Zaire) 2, Semassi de Sokode (Togo) 1 (2-1 on agg); Power Dynamos (Zam) 4, Rivatex 2 (Ken) (4-3 on agg); Arab Contractors (Egypt) 3, Renaissance (Chad) 0 (4-0 on agg); Stationery Stores (Nigeria) 1, Shell FC (Gabon) 1 (1-3 on agg); Kampala City Council 3 (Ken), BFV (Madagascar) 1 (3-2 on agg); Prevoyance Yaounde (Cam) 3, Olympic FC (Niger) 1 (3-3 on agg. Olympic win on away goals); AS le Marsa (Tun) w/o Ports Authority (Sierra Leone), disq.

ARGENTINE: Argentinos Juniors 3, Estudiantes de la Plata 2; Huracan 1, Platense 0; Union 0, San Lorenzo 2; Independiente 1, Newell's Old Boys 0; Chaco for Ever 0, Boca Juniors 0; River Plate 2, Deportivo Mandiyu 2; Rosario Central 0, Racing Club 1; Gimnasia Esgrima La Plata 4, Talleres 3; Ferro Carril Oeste 0, Lanus 0; Velez Sarsfield 1, Deportivo Español 2. Leading positions: 1, Boca Juniors, 8pts; 2, Independiente, 8; 3, Lanus, 7.

AUSTRIA: Admira Wacker 2, Alpine Donawitz 0; Sturm Graz 3, Austria Salzburg 1; Rapid Wien 1, Austria Wien 2; Vorwärts Steyr 1, FC Tirol 1. Leading positions (25 matches): 1, FC Tirol, 21pts; 2, Austria Wien, 21; 3, Sturm Graz, 18.

BELGIAN: Cercle Bruges 3, Beerschot 0; Lokeren 1, Waregem 1. Leading positions (26 matches): 1, Anderlecht, 41pts; 2, Ghent, 39; 3, Mechelen, 37.

BRAZILIAN: Flamengo 3, Vasco da Gama 0; Internacional/Rio Grande do Sul 2, Fluminense 1; Portuguesa 1, Vitoria 1; Nautico 2, Cruzeiro Mineiro 0; Sport 1, Bragantino 0; Bahia 1, Goias 1; Santos 3, Botafogo 0; São Paulo 2, Gremio 0; Palmeiras 1, Atlético Mineiro 0. Leading positions (9 matches): 1, Palmeiras, 12pts; 2, Fluminense, 11; 3, Bragantino, 11.

CZECHOSLOVAK: Dukla Prague 1, TJ Vitkovice 1; Banik Ostrava 4, Bohemians Prague 0; Dukla Banská Bystrica 3, Tatran Presov 2; Slavia Prague 1, Plastika Nitra 1; SKP Union Cheb 2, Zbrojovka Brno 1; DAC Dunajská Streda 0, Sparta Prague 0; Sigma Olomouc 2, SKP Spartak Hradec Kralove 0; Slovan Bratislava 0, Inter Bratislava 0. Leading positions: 1, SKP Union Cheb, 28pts; 2, Slovan Bratislava, 25; 3, Dukla Banská Bystrica, 24.

DUTCH: NEC Nijmegen 0, Ajax 5; Groningen 2, Vitesse Arnhem 0; Utrecht 2, Sparta Rotterdam 0; FC Volendam 2, SVV Schiedam 1; Feyenoord 0, Fortuna Sittard 0; PSV Eindhoven 3, Roda JC Kerkrade 0; SC Heerenveen 4, RKC Waalwijk 1; FC Twente Enschede 2, Willem II Tilburg 0; MVV Maastricht 1, Den Haag 0. Leading positions: 1, PSV Eindhoven, played 21, pts 35; 2, Groningen, 22, 33; 3, Ajax, 20, 30.

FAI CUP: Second round: Galway United 2, Shelbourne 0; Limerick City 1, Elm Rovers 0; Sligo Rovers 2, Shamrock Rovers 2 (aet); Port Laoise 2, Kilkenny City 3; Athlone Town 2, Bohemians 0; Drogheda United 0, Waterford United 2; Derry City 1, Ashtown Villa 2; Midletone 0, St James's Gate 1 (aet).

FRENCH: Marseilles 0, Sochaux 0; Lyons 1, Auxerre 0; Toulouse 1, Monaco 2; Metz 0, Montpellier 0; Cannes 0, St Etienne 1; Lille 0, Paris Saint-Germain 0; Bordeaux 1, Brest 4; Nantes 0, Toulon 0; Caen 2, Rennes 0; Nice 3, Nancy 0.

WEST GERMAN: Karlsruhe 2, Nuremberg 0; Kaiserslautern 2, Bayern Munich 1; Fortuna Düsseldorf 4, Hertha Berlin 2; VfL Bochum 2, Borussia Dortmund 2; St Pauli 1, Bayer Leverkusen 0; Cologne 1, Wattenscheid 1; Werder Bremen 1, Eintracht Frankfurt 1; Borussia Mönchengladbach 1, SV Hamburg 1; VfB Stuttgart 3, Bayer Uerdingen 1.

EAST GERMAN: Sachsen Leipzig 2, Rot-Weiss Erfurt 2; Victoria 91 Frankfurt 2, Energie Cottbus 2; Chemnitz 0, Dynamo Dresden 0; Chemie Halle 1, Hansa Rostock 1; Stahl Brandenburg 1, Lokomotive Leipzig 1; FC Berlin 0, Magdeburg 0; Carl Zeiss Jena 2, Eisenhuttenstadt 1. Leading positions: 1, Hansa Rostock, played 17, 27pts; 2, Dynamo Dresden, 18, 23; 3, Chemnitz, 18, 21.

GREEK: Doxa Dramas 0, Panathinaikos 1; Yannina 0, Olympiakos 0; Athinaikos 1, OFI Crete 0; AEK Athens 5, Larissa 2; PAOK Salonika 3, Apollon Kalamarias 0; Aris Salonika 1, Levadiakos 1; Panionios 1, Iraklis 3; Ionikos 1, Panahaiki 0; Xanthi 0, Serres 0. Leading positions (24 matches): 1, Panathinaikos, 37pts; 2, Olympiakos, 34; 3, Athinaikos, 33.

HUNGARIAN: Raba Vasas ETO 1, Honvéd 1; Videoton 3, MTK VM 0; Ferencváros 3, Debrecen MVSC 2; UTE 0, Tatabánya 1; Veszprém 4, Siófok 0; Volan 0, Pecsi Munkas 1; Vac Izzó MTE 2, Vasas 0; Bekescsaba 1, Szeged 2. Leading positions (18 matches): 1, Honvéd, 29pts; 2, Ferencváros, 27; 3, Vac Izzo MTE, 26.

ITALIAN: Atalanta 4, Lazio 1; Bari 4, Bologna 0; Cesena 3, Lecce 1; Fiorentina 4, Cagliari 1; Internazionale 0, AC Milan 1; Parma 2, Pisa 3; AS Roma 0, Juventus 1; Sampdoria 4, Naples 1; Torino 5, Genoa 2. Leading positions (25 matches): 1, Sampdoria, 39pts; 2, Internazionale, 36; 3, AC Milan, 34.

POLISH: Gornik Zabrze 2, Wisla Kraków 2; Zaglebie Lubin 0, GKS Katowice 0; Olimpia Poznań 2, Igloopol Debica 2; Ruch Chorzow 0, LKS Lódz 1; Stal Mielec 0, Zawisza Bydgoszcz 0; Hutnik Kraków 0, Zaglebie Sosnowiec 0; Śląsk Wroclaw 0, Legia Warsaw 0; Motor Lublin 0, Lech Poznań 0. Leading positions (18 matches): 1, Gornik Zabrze, 24pts; 2, Wisla Kraków, 24; 3, Zaglebie Lubin, 24.

PORTUGUESE: Belenenses 3, Gil Vicente 0; Chaves 4, Farense 2; Estrela da Amadora 2, Beira Mar 0; Famalicão 0, Porto 0; Salgueiros 1, Penafiel 0; Vitoria Setubal 3, Sporting Clube de Portugal 3; Boavista 0, Vitoria Guimarães 0; Sporting Braga 1, Tirsense 2; Nacional da Madeira 0, Benfica 2. Leading positions (28 matches): 1, Benfica, 50pts; 2, Porto, 49; 3, Sporting Clube de Portugal, 44.

SOVIET: Torpedo Moscow 1, Spartak Vladikavkaz 1; Dynamo Minsk 2, Dynamo Kiev 2; Spartak Moscow 1, Pamir Dushanbe 0; Chernomorets Odessa 3, Dynamo Moscow 0; Shakhtyor Donetsk 2, Pakhtakor Tashkent 1; Metallist Kharkov 0, Ararat Yerevan 1; CSKA Moscow 5, Lokomotiv Moscow 1; Dnepr Dnepropetrovsk 1, Metallurg Zaporozhe 0.

SPANISH: Burgos 1, Atlético Madrid 1; Sporting Gijon 1, Barcelona 0; Osasuna 2, Castellón 0; Athletic Bilbao 2, Seville 0; Tenerife 2, Mallorca 1; Valladolid 0, Zaragoza 0; Betis 3, Cádiz 0; Valencia 0, Sociedad 1; Español 0, Logroñés 1; Real Madrid 1, Oviedo 1. Leading positions (27 matches): 1, Barcelona, 44pts; 2, Atlético Madrid, 40; 3, Osasuna, 33.

TURKISH: Beşiktaş 3, Konyaspor 0; Adanaspor 1, Gençlerbirliği 1; Karsiyaka 1, Gaziantepspor 0; Bursaspor 2, Fenerbahçe 0; Ankaragücü 2, Zeytinburnuspor 2; Sariyer 2, Boluspor 0; Bakirkoyspor 0, Galatasaray 2; Trabzonspor 0, Aydinspor 0. Leading positions (24 matches): 1, Beşiktaş, 58pts; 2, Galatasaray, 52; 3, Trabzonspor, 48.

YUGOSLAV: Borac Banja Luka 3, Sarajevo 0; Radnicki Nis 2, Proleter Zrenjanin 1; Velez Mostar 5, Spartak Subotica 2; Zemun 1, Dynamo Zagreb 1 (Dynamo 7-6 on pens); Rijeka 0, Hajduk Split 0 (Hajduk 3-1 on pens); Buducnost Titograd 3, Sloboda Tuzla 1; Olimpija Ljubljana 0, Red Star Belgrade 6; Partizan Belgrade 4, Osijek 0; Zeljeznicar 1, Rad Belgrade 0. Leading positions: 1, Red Star Belgrade, played 24, pts 38; 2, Partizan Belgrade, 23, 27; 3, Dynamo Zagreb, 23, 27.

Tall order: presidents, Staite, of Cambridge, and Obholzer, of Oxford, weigh in

Scales tipped in favour of the Oxford crew

By MIKE ROSEWELL, ROWING CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD scaled 9½lb per man heavier than Cambridge at the official Boat Race weigh-in at Putney yesterday.

Neither crew was of record breaking dimension, with Oxford, at 13st 10½lb, and Cambridge, at 13st 1lb, compared with Oxford's record weight of 14st 12lb in 1990.

Matthew Pinsent, of Oxford, Steve Redgrave's bronze-medal pairs partner in Tasmania last autumn, is the heaviest man in either boat at 15st 2lb but, in spite of his presence, the Oxford crew is the lightest for ten years.

Richard Young, back in the Oxford crew after injury, becomes only the second man, after Bruce Philp, a winner with Oxford in 1985, to row in both Cambridge and Oxford colours.

Richard Staite, the Cambridge president and a British lightweight double sculler, is the only man under 6ft in the two crews and, at 11st 4lb, is over 1½st lighter than any other blue this year.

There are clearly no hot favourites as far as weight or age are concerned, Oxford, at 22 years 5 months, being just one year older per man than Cambridge.

Oxford's reserve crew, Isis, was more than ½st lighter than Goldie, one reason being the eleventh-hour inclusion of Alex Ferguson and Dominic Neary, who rode as stern pair in the Lightweight Boat Race on Sunday. Both men, although small, rode in the winning Isis crew of 1989.

The new Isis line-up had a wet start to their last week's training when they sank in their warm-up prior to a pacing exercise with Oxford. Three huge waves swamped them *just* below the Bandstand. They reached the bank and re-embarked, but Oxford were in a mean and impressive mood and swept past Isis when the reserves joined them in the middle of a nine-minute row.

UNIVERSITY CREWS

CAMBRIDGE: R A B Smith (Shrewsbury and Trinity Hall), bow; *R J Staite (Prince Henry's School and St Catharines); M C J Justicz (Westminster, Atlanta, Boston University and Sidney Sussex); *G R Pooley (Berkhamstead, Imperial College and St John's); K St C Allen (King's, Canterbury and Magdalene); D R Gillard (Bedford Modern and St Catharines); N J Clarry (John Hampden GS and Jesus); *A J Wright (King Edward VI, Southampton and Corpus Christi), stroke; *A J L Beasley (Winchester, University of East Anglia and Magdalene), cox.

OXFORD: R W Martin (Johnston School, Durham and University), bow; J G Michels (St John's, *La Salle University* and University); P A J Bridge (Eton and Oriel); H P M Hume (St Albans, Washington DC, Yale and Pembroke); *C A Maclennan (Camp Hill GS, Birmingham, Keble and Green); *M Pinsent (Eton and St Catherines); *R C Young (Bedford, Downing and St John's); R J Obholzer (Hampton and St Catherine's), stroke; N Chugani (Hampton and St Catherine's), cox.

GOLDIE: J K Metrewell (Westminster and Pembroke), bow; M J Macadden (Oratory and Jesus); A D G Adam (Eton and Magdalene); R J Piercy (Judd, Sedbergh and Corpus Christi); S R Waterhouse (Bishop's Stortford College and Fitzwilliam); *S L Fowler (Eton and Robinson); A M Elder (St Pauls and Trinity Hall); T G T Anslee (Eton and Girton), stroke; V L Cook (Bedford HS and Selwyn), cox.

ISIS: D R Clothier (Emanuel and Queen's), bow; K P Jefferson (Brockenhurst College and University); M P Brown (Queen's Park HS and Oriel); K W Kobach (Washburn *Rural HS, Harvard and Brasenose*); *S G* Davy (Eton and Worcester); J P Hodges (Abingdon and Oriel); A G Ferguson (St Edward's and Christ Church); D M Neary (Hampton and St Peter's), stroke; V A Wild (Yegol Ardudwy and Madgalen), cox.

Outing times on Tuesday: Cambridge 9.00am and 2.30pm. Oxford: 9.00am and 3.00pm.

* a blue

RUGBY UNION

Injured O'Leary makes way for Bayfield's return

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

MARTIN Bayfield, the Bedford lock, will make his second appearance for the England B team against the Italians at Waterloo tomorrow.

He has been brought into the second row to replace Sean O'Leary, of Wasps, who has chest and shoulder injuries. O'Leary complained of a pulled muscle after his club's match with Northampton on Saturday.

Bayfield's debut at this level was in the 12-12 draw against the Emerging Australians in November. He has been a regular member of the Midland pack during the divisional championship.

Another Wasp, Dean Ryan, has withdrawn from the replacements, having failed to recover from a rib injury. He is replaced by Tim Rodber, of Northampton.

Steve Knight, deputy scrum half to Richard Hill at Bath, will lead the South-West in their divisional B game with London at Weston-super-Mare tomorrow evening. He will be joined by Kevin Withey, a former club colleague now playing for Newport, who replaces the unavailable Derek Eves in the back row.

The divisional selectors have made two other changes to their original selection, bringing in Paul Flood, the Swansea University student, at centre, and Mark Wyatt, of Clifton, at No. 8 for Paul Collings. Collings, like Eves, will be required by Bristol for the rescheduled league match against Harlequins this weekend. London players will have in mind the divisional squad to tour Australia in May. That squad should be confirmed at the end of next week.

☐ Daniel Bourne, the Lichfield flanker, has been picked for England Colts against Wales Youth at Fylde on April 6. He is the only change from the team which played Argentina Juniors.

DIVISIONAL TEAMS: South-West B: A Lumsden; J Fallon, P de Glanville (Bath), P Flood (Bridgend), M Speakman (Clifton); A Green (Exeter), S Knight (Bath); A Windo, J Hawker, R Phillips (Gloucester), G Williams (Redruth), M Haag (Bath), D Sims (Gloucester), K Withey (Newport), M Wyatt (Clifton).

London B: J Graves (Rosslyn Park); D Dooley (Saracens), G Childs (Wasps), M Evans (Richmond), M Wedderburn (Harlequins); M Jermyn (Rosslyn Park), B Davies (Saracens); R James (Blackheath), S Davies (Rosslyn Park), I Dunston (Wasps), C Tarbuck (Saracens), M Harris (Wasps), N Dyte (Harlequins), M Hill (Rosslyn Park), R Langhorn (Harlequins).

Young offenders sentenced to defeat

THE first day of the Rosslyn Park Sevens, for one-term rugby schools, saw the advent of a new competitor, the "Feltham Blacksheep," who are members of the Feltham Young Offenders Institute, which is part of the Prison Service. They came in as late replacements and never put a foot or a hand wrong.

Given the run-around, as they were by Wellington College and Monmouth, it would have been easy for these young men to lose their cool. But they enjoyed the experience. Having lost their fourth and final group match by 10-0 to Sutton Valance, their verdict was still a resounding wish to play more rugby.

Of the seventeen group winners, Wellington College and Blundells had to play off to achieve an even number in today's knockout. Wellington came back strongly to win 9-4.

ROSSLYN PARK RESULTS

First round: Group A: Caterham 4, Bristol GS 18; Desborough 0, Haileybury 18; Desborough 14, Caterham 14; Lancing 18, Bristol GS 6; Haileybury 28, Bristol GS 14; Caterham 16, Lancing 16; Caterham 6, Haileybury 32; Desborough 4, Lancing 24. Group B: Stamford 4, Sherborne 18; Kingswood 0, Eastbourne 26; Kingswood 4, Stamford 28; Bearwood 0, Sherborne 42; Eastbourne 6, Sherborne 18; Stamford 20, Bearwood 0; Stamford 12, Eastbourne 22; Kingswood 8, Bearwood 16. Group C: Wellington School 14, Rochester Maths 12; Beths 0, Trent 46; Beths 0, Wellington School 28; Rutlish 0, Rochester Maths 16; Trent 22, Rochester Maths 6; Wellington School 18, Rutlish 4; Wellington School 0, Trent 22; Beths 16, Rutlish 0. Group D: Christ College, Brecon 20, St Dunstan's 0; Mill Hill 4, King Edward's, Bath 4; Mill Hill 4, Christ College, Brecon 16; Lord Williams's, Thame 0, St Dunstan's 16; King Edward's, Bath 10, St Dunstan's 12; Christ College, Brecon 16, Lord Williams's 10; Christ *College, Brecon 22, King Edward's, Bath* 4; Mill Hill 18, Lord Williams's 0. Group E: Colston's 20, Lord Wandsworth 24; King's, Canterbury 28, Langley Park 4; King's, Canterbury 4, Colston's 14; Rossall 26, Lord Wandsworth 0; Langley Park 8, Lord Wandsworth 14; Colston's 4, Rossall 16; Colston's 20, Langley Park 4; King's, Canterbury 6, Rossall 16. Group F: Taunton 18, St John's, Leatherhead 10; Churcher's 0, Epsom 22; Churcher's 0, Epsom 28; Cedars 10, St John's, Leatherhead 6; Epsom 14, St John's, Leatherhead 4; Taunton 18, Cedars 6; Taunton 18, Epsom 12; Churcher's 6, Cedars 20. Group G: Blundell's 22, Colfe's 6; Prior Park 6, Culford 14; Prior Park 6, Blundell's 20; St Bees 16, Colfe's 12; Culford 16, Colfe's 4; Blundell's 12, St Bees 6; Blundell's 10, Culford 0; Prior Park 12, St Bees 22. Group H: Portsmouth 0, Monmouth 28; Wellington College 30, Sutton Valence 6; Wellington College 26, Portsmouth 6; Feltham Blacksheep 0, Monmouth 32; Sutton Valence 10, Monmouth 12; Portsmouth 26, Feltham Blacksheep 0; Portsmouth 12, Sutton Valence 6; Wellington College 34, Feltham Blacksheep 0. Group I: King's, Worcester 16, Bedford 16; Whitgift 18, Monkton Combe 6; Whitgift 16, King's, Worcester 7; St George's College, Weybridge 0, Bedford 30; Monkton Combe 4, Bedford 16; King's, Worcester 40, St George's College, Weybridge 0; King's, Worcester 18, Monkton Combe 10; Whitgift 26, St George's College, Weybridge 6. Group J: Shebbear 0, Ipswich 34; Hereford 6, Bryanston 22, Hereford 22, Shebbear 8; Barnard Castle 12, Ipswich 8; Bryanston 26, Ipswich 10; Shebbear 0, Barnard Castle 26; Shebbear 0, Bryanston 28; Hereford 16, Barnard Castle 6. Group K: St Edward's, Oxford 20, Brighton 4; Pangbourne 24, Gofts GS 4; Gofts GS 8, St Edward's, Oxford 28; Ryde 25, Brighton 18; Pangbourne 0, Brighton 16; St Edward's, Oxford 10, Ryde 9; St Edward's, Oxford 22, Pangbourne 0; Gofts 0, Ryde 24. Group L: Austin Friars 8, Queen's College, Taunton 10; Kelly College 10, Tonbridge 6; Kelly College 6, Austin Friars 4; Haberdashers' Aske's 4, Queen's, Taunton 14; Tonbridge 10, Queen's, Taunton 12; Austin Friars 10, Haberdashers' Aske's 0; Austin Friars 10, Tonbridge 14; Kelly College 18, Hab*erdashers' Aske's 0 Group M: Malvern 8*, Christ's Hospital 10; Eton 16, Allhallows 4; Eton 14, Malvern 8; Durham 28, Christ's Hospital 0; Allhallows 8, Christ's Hospital 12; Malvern 0, Durham 20; Malvern 16, Allhallows 16; Eton 0, Durham 20. Group N: Douai 12, KCS Wimbledon 20; Bromsgrove 14, King's, Taunton 4; Bromsgrove 12, Douai 12; Duke of York's 6, KCS Wimbledon 18; King's, Taunton 34, KCS Wimbledon 0; Douai 20, Duke of York's 4; Douai 6, King's, Taunton 14; Bromsgrove 28, Duke of York's 4. Group O: Bloxham 12, Loughborough GS 18; Cheltenham 36, Dulwich 0; Cheltenham 16, Bloxham 10; Mixed Schools XII 4, Loughborough 24; Dulwich 24, Loughborough 6, Bloxham 12, Mixed Schools 4; Bloxham 4, Dulwich 18; Cheltenham 36, Mixed Schools 0. Group P: Windsor 4, Plymouth 12; Bedford Modern 10, Skinners 10; Bedford Modern 12, Windsor 16; Downside 8, Plymouth 32; Skinners 4, Plymouth 16; Windsor 10, Downside 14; Windsor 20, Skinners 4; Bedford Modern 28, Downside 24. Group Q: Cranleigh 28, St Paul's 0; Berkhamsted 32, Sevenoaks 8; Berkhamsted 12, Cranleigh 14; Worksop 6, St Paul's 18; Sevenoaks 0, St Paul's 28; Cranleigh 22, Worksop 6; Cranleigh 32, Sevenoaks 0; Berkhamsted 28, Worksop 4.

VOLLEYBALL

Clubs left fuming over cuts

By RODDY MACKENZIE

CLUBS winning competitions in England have had their prize-money cut without warning by the English Volleyball Association (EVA), in a move which has prompted an angry response.

Polonia Ealing and *Mizuno* Britannia, who won the respective Royal Bank of Scotland men's and women's English cups at Crystal Palace on Saturday, were staggered to find that their cheques had been cut drastically, despite the sponsorship level remaining constant.

Last year, the prize for both competitions was £500 but Polonia and Britannia received only £150 each for their efforts. The cheques for the league winners have been halved, to £250.

Julian Banasiewicz, the Polonia team secretary, said yesterday that the amount was "pitiful". "We'd have been better off channelling our efforts into winning the raffle than the cup," he said.

Jefferson Williams, who guided Mizuno Malory to the men's league title this season, said that he felt the cuts would promote mediocrity.

"Last season, we received a total of £1,500 for winning the league, cup and supercup, and *that is* the sort of money *that can* be used for putting towards a European entry. Two hundred and fifty pounds for winning the league does not do much more than cover your registration fees," he said.

George Bulman, the national director of the EVA, said: "We've made a decision to redirect the money towards clubs who are seen to be promoting the game.

"We wanted to make sure that not only the elite teams were rewarded and we're now making awards to teams in each division of the national league, men's and women's, on how well organised they are."

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

FLEET HALF-MARATHON: 1, C Robison *(Omega Derby), 1hr 02min 58sec;* 2, W Dee (Luton), 1:02:59; 3, I Comford (Shaftesbury Barnet), 1:03:11. Women: 1, A Hulley (Leeds), 1:13:16; 2, P Fudge (Hounslow), 1:14:10; 3, Z Marchant (City of Bath), 1:18:18.

SWANLEY HALF-MARATHON: 1, A Girling (Invicta), 1hr 09min 21sec; 2, K Penny (Cambridge H), 1:09:25. Women: A Roden (South London H), 1:17:50.

WORTHING: 20-mile race: 1, N Smith (Brighton), 1hr 51min 06sec; 2, J Rhoades (South London), 1:52:27; 3, A Pellatt (Brighton), 1:52:58. Women: J Ince (Brighton), 2:08:02.

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): San Antonio Spurs 95, Detroit Pistons 78; Portland Trail Blazers 117, Charlotte Hornets 102; Los Angeles Lakers 113, Seattle SuperSonics 96.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic division				
x-Boston Celtics	50	19	.725	—
Philadelphia 76ers	38	30	.559	11½
New York Knicks	34	35	.493	16
Washington Bullets	25	42	.373	24
New Jersey Nets	22	46	.324	27½
Miami Heat	20	49	.290	30
Central division				
x-Chicago Bulls	51	16	.761	—
x-Detroit Pistons	42	27	.609	10
x-Milwaukee Bucks	42	27	.609	10
Atlanta Hawks	38	31	.551	14
Indiana Pacers	34	35	.493	18
Cleveland Cavaliers	24	43	.358	27
Charlotte Hornets	19	49	.279	32½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest division				
x-Utah Jazz	45	22	.672	—
x-San Antonio Spurs	44	23	.657	1
x-Houston Rockets	43	24	.642	2
Dallas Mavericks	25	42	.373	20
Orlando Magic	23	43	.348	21½
Minnesota T'wolves	22	45	.328	23
Denver Nuggets	18	50	.265	27½
Pacific division				
x-Portland Trail Blazers	49	18	.731	—
x-Los Angeles Lakers	48	20	.706	1½
x-Phoenix Suns	47	21	.691	2½
Golden State Warriors	36	31	.537	13
Seattle SuperSonics	32	35	.485	16½
Los Angeles Clippers	25	44	.362	25
Sacramento Kings	18	48	.273	30½

x — won play-off position

CARLSBERG LEAGUE: Second division play-offs: Broxbourne 79, Doncaster 105; Cheshire 74, Birmingham 78. Third division play-offs: Cardiff 90, Kirklees 75; Chiltern 72, Cheshire 69. Junior play-offs: Quarter-finals: E London 100, Bury 75; Gloucester 52, Brixton 84; Leicester 77, C Palace 65; Minsthorpe 71, Birmingham 97. Women: Play-offs: Quarter-finals: C Palace 71, Nottingham 48; Northampton 70, Rhondda 58; Sheffield 71, Brixton 41. Second division: Hemel Hempstead 80, Camberley 58; Leicester 76, Sunderland 39; Wirral 63, Harlesden 52. Founders Cup: Final (first leg): Liverpool 79, Solent 102.

BOWLS

EBF NATIONAL INDOOR CHAMPIONSHIPS: Regional play-offs: Finals: Southern division (at Peterborough): Singles: A Hall (Lincs) bt J Newson (Northants), 21-18. Pairs: J Rix and R Allard (Norfolk) bt A Nelson and G Newall (North Cambs), 19-14. Rinks: J Froedick, G Hardisty and N Bowden (Lincs) bt J Forsyth, S Pople and J Newson (Northants), 22-18. Northern division (at South Tyneside): Singles: N Harris (Northumberland) bt A Theobald (Durham), 21-15. Pairs: C Cairns and H Taylor (Northumberland) bt R Edwards and J Burgher (Durham), 24-9. Rinks: M Penny, R Tripp and G Spencer (Humberside) bt A Seymour Jr, A Seymour Sr and A Wallace (Northumberland), 20-15.

BADMINTON

HELSINKI: Finnish Open: Men: Doubles: *Final: C Kang and C Hongyoung (China) bt bt* Z Yumin and H Zhenzhong (China), 10-15, 15-12, 15-12. Women: Doubles: Final: N Nielsen (Den) and G Clark (Eng) bt W Yuhong and P Li (China), 15-9, 14-17, 15-11.

ROYAL BANK INTER-COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS: Second division: Kent 14, Herts 3; Middlesex 11, Sussex 6. Third division play-offs: Bucks 14, Wilts 3; Scottish Midlands 13, Cheshire 4.

ETON FIVES

ETON COLLEGE: Holmwoods Schools championships: Quarter-finals: Harrow I bt Wolverhampton III; Wolverhampton I bt Highgate II; Eton I bt Berkhamsted I; Highgate I bt Wolverhampton II.

GOLF

VOLVO EUROPEAN TOUR: Order of Merit: 1, S Richardson (Eng), £136,430; 2, J-M Olazábal (Sp), £93,917; 3, M McLean (Eng), £71,839; 4, I Woosnam (Wales), £66,660; 5, M A Jiménez (Sp), £52,400; 6, G Levenson (SA), £48,075; 7, M A Martin (Sp), £43,748; 8, V Fernandez (Arg), £37,811; 9, D Feherty (N Ire), £36,716; 10, P-U Johansson (Swe), £25,203.

MOON VALLEY, Phoenix: Women's tournament: Leading final scores (United States unless stated): 284: D Ammaccapane, 74, 70, 70, 69. 285: M Mallon, 73, 75, 70, 67; B Burkowsky (Can), 74, 66, 73, 70. 288: C Walker, 74, 71, 70, 73. 289: M McGann, 77, 70, 68, 74; B King, 72, 72, 72, 73; C Morse, 75, 70, 73, 71; T Barrett, 75, 73, 70, 71; A Ritzman, 75, 74, 70, 70. 290: R Jones, 78, 72, 73, 67. British scores: 292: K Davies, 74, 71, 72, 75. 293: L Davies, 74, 75, 71, 73.

TAMANA, Japan: Marine Open: Leading final scores (tournament shortened to two rounds because of rain; Japan unless stated): 143: M Hirase, 75, 68; Y Moriguchi 72, 71; T Ikebuchi, 72, 71. (Hirase won play-off at third extra hole). 144: T Al-yu, (Tai), 73, 71. 145: I Ohta, 75, 70; L Young-Mo (S Kor), 74, 71; E Nakajima 73, 72; M Shimabukuro, 72, 73.

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): New York Rangers 3, New York Islanders 1; Los Angeles Kings 4, Edmonton Oilers 3 (OT); Buffalo Sabres 6, Philadelphia Flyers 2; Boston Bruins 3, Washington Capitals 3 (OT); Chicago Black Hawks 5, Minnesota North Stars 4.

WALES CONFERENCE

	W	L	D	Pts
Patrick division				
x-Pittsburgh Penguins	39	32	5	83
x-New York Rangers	35	30	12	82
Washington Capitals	35	34	7	77
New Jersey Devils	31	31	14	76
Philadelphia Flyers	33	35	9	75
New York Islanders	23	44	10	56
Adams division				
x-Boston Bruins	42	23	12	96
x-Montreal Canadiens	37	29	11	85
x-Buffalo Sabres	29	30	17	75
x-Hartford Whalers	31	35	10	72
Quebec Nordiques	15	48	13	43
CAMPBELL CONFERENCE				
Norris division				
x-Chicago Black Hawks	47	22	7	101
x-St Louis Blues	43	22	11	97
x-Detroit Red Wings	33	38	8	74
x-Minnesota N Stars	26	38	14	66
Toronto Maple Leafs	23	44	10	56
Smythe division				
x-Los Angeles Kings	44	23	10	98
x-Calgary Flames	44	25	7	95
x-Edmonton Oilers	35	38	5	75
Vancouver Canucks	27	42	9	63
Winnipeg Jets	26	41	11	63

x — won play-off position

COPENHAGEN: World championships: Pool C: China 4, Bulgaria 3; Hungary 9, South Korea 4; Romania 7, North Korea 2.

HEINEKEN LEAGUE: Premier division: Solihull 7, Durham 6. First division: Glasgow 5, Swindon 7.

ENGLISH LEAGUE: First division: Blackburn 5, Milton Keynes 12; Haringey 12, Sunderland 9; Oxford 12, Chelmsford 4; Sheffield 7, Richmond 13.

CYCLING

TIME TRIALS: Redmond CC (25 miles: Holmwood, Surrey): B Molloy (Tooting BC), 59min 31sec. Team: Tooting BC, 3hr 3min 12sec. Ickfield RC Hilly (27.5 miles): G Dighton (Manchester Wh), 1:03:45 (course and event record). Team: Chiltern, 3:29:16. South Staffs CA (25 miles): A Roberts (Crewe Clarion Wh), 55:45. Team: Crewe Clarion Wh, 2:56:18. Hinckley CRC Hilly (25 miles): W Elliott (Concorde RCC), 59:45. Team: Hinckley CRC, 3:04:18. North Midlands CF (25 miles): C Sugden (Sheffield RCC), 55:36. Team: Rockingham CC, 2:59:29. Axholme Wh 2-up (25 miles): T Nash and M Pitchford (Scunthorpe Poly), 58:07. Gemini BC Hardriders (22 miles): T Stevens (34 Nomads), 50:50. Team: 34 Nomads, 2:38:12. Team Mirage (25 miles): I Cammish (Raleigh) 58:15. Team: Mirage, 3:08:48. Team Rapide 2-up (25 miles, Preston): G Butler and M Dodgson (Norwood Paragon), 53:08 (course record). Sussex CA 2-up (24.5 miles): S Dennis and S Blackmore (E Grinstead CC), 1:00:08. Liverpool TTCA (25 miles): W Moore (Leo RC), 57:19. Team: Prescot Eagle, 3:07:58. Zenith CC Hilly (25.4 miles): S Bray (Invicta RC), 1:02:15. VC Chesterfield 2-up (25 miles): W Randle and J Tanner (Dinnington RC), 50:57. Scarborough Paragon (10 miles): I Cammish (Raleigh), 20:30. Team: Scarborough Paragon, 1:08:35.

PROFESSIONAL ROAD-RACE (60 miles): 1, C Lillywhite (Banana-Falcon), 1hr 58min 26sec; 2, B Luckwell (PCA); 3, S Douce (Dawes), both same time.

ROAD RACES: JWP Lille and Passions Europe two-day (Hants, 146 miles): 1, S Farrell (W Midlands Centre of Exc), 5hr 48min 37sec; 2, I Gilkes (W Midlands C of Exc), 5:49:03; 3, M Postle (CC Abergavenny), 5:49:26. Team: W Midlands C of Exc. King of the Mountains: Postle, 21pts. Rowland-Harlow (58 miles): 1, B Long (Southend and Co Wh), 3:19:08; 2, M Illingworth (Olympia Sport); 3, D Staff (Norfolk RC), both same time. Albert Price Memorial (47 miles): D Williams (Liverpool Mercury), 1:54:43. Hem Hill (60 miles): P Barker (Western RC), 2:35:49. Deeside Olympic RC (55 miles): A Mills (Kirkby CC), 2:15:0. Wayside Properties (Selston, Notts, 62 miles): V Sinn (Paragon RT), 2:32:54.

MOTOR SPORT

MALLORY PARK: Motorcraft Open Formula Ford Championship: Second round: 1, M Goossens (Bel), Van Diemen, 12min 14.87sec; 2, R Ingall (Aus), Van Diemen; 3, R C Bedra (Br), Van Diemen; 4, S Nicholson (Eng), Reynard; 5, J Yeomans (Scot), Van Diemen; 6, M Thorpe (Eng), Van Diemen.

SOMERSET STAGES: 1, D Moody (Ford Sierra), 50min 59sec; 2, A Bolt (Escort), 51:27; 3, B Moore (Vauxhall Astra), 51:59.

CUMBRIA: Haverigg stages: 1, M Eledon (Darrian), 23min 06sec; 2, K Hall (Escort), 23:34; 3, S Kennan (Peugeot 205), 24:08.

NORDIC SKIING

ST MORITZ, Switzerland: World Cup: Combined title: 1, K Sulzenbacher (Austria), 44min 04.8sec; 2, M Abe (Japan), at 6.3sec; 3, T E Elden (Nor), at 32. Ski jump: 1, Sulzenbacher, 227.30; equal 2, Abe and F B Lundberg (Nor), 219.9; Final standings: 1, Lundberg, 142pts; 2, Sulzenbacher (Austria), 137; 3, Elden, 123.

ROWING

HEAD OF THE RIVER: 1, Leander I, 17min 24.14sec (Page Trophy winners); 2, Molesey I, 17:38.89; 3, London University I, 17:46.78 (Vernon Trophy winners); 4, Goldie I (Cambridge), 17:57.62 (Senior I winners); 5, Nottingham County II, 18:01.24; 6, Lea I, 18:05.81; 7, Leander II, 18:08.81; 8, Kingston I, 18:09.41; 9, London I, 18:13.03; 10, Tideway Scullers I, 18:15.86; 11, London University II, 18:16.24; 12, Imperial College I, 18:16.85 (Ortner winners); 13, London University III, 18:21.5; 14, Bedford I, 18:21.73 (Jackson Trophy winners); 15, Thames I, 18:22.01; 16, Nottingham County I, 18:23.10; 17, Berliner RG Germany, 18:25.11 (Senior II winners); 18, Nottingham County III, 18:25.24; 19, Age Croft I, 18:30.29; 20, Thames Tradesmen I, 18:30.39. Other division winners: 37, Imperial College II, 18:50.12 (Senior III and UAU winners); 105, Durham University III, 19:32.61 (Novice winners); 185, Royal Navy, 20:12.59 (Services winners).

HOCKEY

POUNDSTRETCHER NATIONAL LEAGUE

First division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Havant	13	10	2	1	40	15	32
Indian Gym	13	9	3	1	19	9	30
Hounslow	12	7	3	2	39	14	24
E Grinstead	13	7	3	3	25	10	24
Southgate	14	7	1	6	36	28	22
O Loughtonians	13	6	3	4	27	20	21
St Albans	13	6	2	5	26	28	20
Stourport	13	5	4	4	27	24	19
Teddington	13	5	3	5	15	24	18
Bromley	12	5	2	5	20	20	17
Slough	12	5	2	5	19	19	17
Cannock	13	5	1	7	14	24	16
Neston	13	3	3	7	17	29	12
Walton	12	3	1	8	15	23	10
Isca	14	2	0	12	16	35	6
Wakefield	15	1	3	11	12	49	6

Second division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bournville	13	10	2	1	32	13	32
Trojans	15	8	5	2	33	22	29
Lyons	15	9	1	5	30	17	28
Firebrands	14	7	6	1	22	10	27
Cambridge C	14	7	6	1	20	10	27
Reading	14	7	3	4	20	16	24
Harborne	15	7	2	6	32	24	23
Canterbury	15	7	1	7	23	17	22
Brean	15	6	3	6	23	17	21
Gorecourt	14	5	3	6	12	20	18
Guildford	15	5	2	8	21	28	17
Warrington	13	4	3	6	17	20	15
Doncaster	15	4	3	8	25	33	15
Richmond	14	3	5	6	17	24	14
Taunton Vale	14	1	1	12	12	37	4
Broxbourne	15	0	4	10	13	44	4

TYPHOO WOMEN'S LEAGUE

Final table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Slough	9	7	1	1	20	8	22
Leicester	9	5	4	0	15	5	19
Sutton Coldfd	9	4	4	1	20	9	16
Ipswich	9	4	3	2	16	13	15
Hightown	9	5	0	4	9	6	15
Chelmsford	9	3	2	4	7	11	11
Ealing	9	2	4	3	11	12	10
Clifton	9	2	3	4	10	14	9
Wimbledon	9	1	1	7	9	25	4
Doncaster	9	0	2	7	7	20	2

COUNTY MATCHES: Hertfordshire 1, Norfolk 4; Bedfordshire 1, Suffolk 2. Under-21: Hertfordshire 4, Norfolk 4.

CRICKET

SHEFFIELD SHIELD: Final (in Melbourne): New South Wales 223 and 134 (A Dodemaide 6-25); Victoria 119 and 102-2.

TOUR MATCH: Harare: Worcestershire 191 for 7 off 50 overs (G A Hick 91), Zimbabwe 192 for 9 (A Flower 59).

SKIING

NATIONS CUP: Final standings: 1, Austria, 2,405pts; 2, Switzerland, 1,330; 3, Germany, 755; 4, Norway, 702; 5, France, 589; 6, Sweden, 555. Men: 1, Austria, 954; 2, Switzerland, 737; 3, Norway, 643; 4, Italy, 522; 5, Sweden, 335; 6, Germany, 260. Women: 1, Austria, 1,451; 2, Switzerland, 593; 3, Germany, 495; 4, France, 413; 5, United States, 283; 6, Sweden, 220.

SNOOKER

PRESTON: Embassy world championship: Second qualifying round: P Gibson (Eng) bt P Watchorn (Rep of Ire), wo; C Cookson (Eng) bt R Bales (Eng), 10-1; M Price (Eng) bt W Werbeniuk (Can), 10-1; J Birch (Eng) bt K Stevens (Can), 10-4; V Potasnyk (Aus) bt G Cripsey (Eng), 10-4; R Lawler (Eng) bt A Harris (Eng), 10-5; R Edmonds (Eng) bt P Thornley (Can), 10-3; B Harris (Eng) bt M Darrington (Eng), 10-5; N Terry (Eng) bt F Chan (HK), 10-8.

MATCHROOM LEAGUE: J White (Eng) bt D Taylor (N Ire), 6-2.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

7.30 unless stated

UEFA U-21 Championship
Group two
Scotland v Bulgaria (at Kilmarnock FC)

Group seven
England v Republic of Ireland (at Brentford FC, 7.45)

Barclays League
Third division
Bradford v Crewe (7.45)
Exeter v Bolton
Preston v Swansea
Reading v Huddersfield
Shrewsbury v Tranmere
Stoke v Mansfield
Wigan v Rotherham

Fourth division
Halifax v Wrexham
Hartlepool v Walsall
Lincoln v York
Scarborough v Burnley
Stockport v Rochdale
Torquay v Northampton

Leyland Daf Cup
Southern Area Final
Birmingham v Brentford (7.45)

GM Vauxhall Conference
Barnet v Sutton Utd
Bath v Cheltenham
Macclesfield v Barrow
Runcorn v Altrincham

POSTPONED: Northwich v Colchester.

B and Q Scottish League
First division
Ayr v Hamilton
Meadowbank v Clyde
Morton v Forfar
Partick v Dundee

Second division
Cowdenbeath v East Fife

VAUXHALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Barking v Marlow; Enfield v Wokingham; Hayes v Grays; Leyton-Wingate v Woking; Staines v Hendon. First division: Bromley v Heybridge Swifts; Dorking v Uxbridge; Hitchin v Harlow; Tooting and Mitcham v Aveley; Whyteleafe v Lewes; Worthing v Croydon; Yeading v Molesey. Second division north: Basildon v Kingsbury; Clapton v Saffron Walden; Royston v Hornchurch. Second division south: Camberley v Petersfield; Egham v Maidenhead; Harefield v Newbury; Hungerford v Malden Vale. Loctite Trophy: Witham v Abingdon. Loctite Cup: Aylesbury v Dulwich; Bishop's Stortford v Wivenhoe; Chesham v Dagenham.

HFS LOANS LEAGUE: Premier division: Chorley v Buxton; Droylsden v Witton; Fleetwood v Horwich; Matlock v Frickley. First division: Irlam v Emley; Netherfield v Accrington Stanley. First division Cup: Harrogate v Lancaster. League Cup: Semi-final, second leg: *First leg score in brackets: Bangor City (1) v Southport (4).*

PREMIER INTER-LEAGUE CUP: Semi-final: Dover v Carshalton.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Crawley v Gloucester; Wealdstone v Bashley. Southern division: Andover v Hastings; Buckingham v Salisbury; Sudbury v Ashford. Midland division: Bridgnorth v Tamworth; Stourbridge v Newport AFC; Stroud v Bedworth.

PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Coventry v Manchester City (7.0); Everton v Sheffield Utd (7.0); Manchester Utd v Huddersfield (7.0); Sheffield Wed v Sunderland (7.0).

OVENDEN PAPERS COMBINATION: Charlton v Portsmouth (7.0); Southampton v Arsenal; Wimbledon v Norwich.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ards v Omagh Town (7.45); Ballyclare Comrades v Ballymena (7.45); Crusaders v Portadown (7.45); Glenavon v Cliftonville (7.45); Glentoran v Bangor (7.45); Larne v Carrick (7.45); Newry v Distillery (7.45).

Postponed: Coleraine v Linfield.

NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Blyth Spartans v Murton.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Clacton v Newmarket; Gorleston v Brantham Athletic; Halstead v Braintree; March v Chatteris; Wroxham v Wisbech.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Radstock v Plymouth Argyle.

BASS NORTH WEST COUNTIES: First division: Bootle v Knowsley; Flixton v Atherton LR; Vauxhall GM v Nantwich. Lamot Pils Trophy: Cheadle v Glossop.

INTER-SERVICE CHAMPIONSHIP: Army v Royal Air Force (at the Military Stadium, Aldershot).

RUGBY UNION

HEINEKEN WELSH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff v Pontypridd (7.15).

CLUB MATCHES: Cheltenham v Gloucester (7.0); Northampton v Met Police (7.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Warrington v Wigan.

OTHER SPORT

SNOOKER: *World professional championship: Qualifying rounds (Preston).*

SQUASH RACKETS: Scottish Open (Glasgow).

IN BRIEF

Laing's last chance

KIRKLAND Laing will be fighting for his future when he challenges Donovan Boucher, of Canada, for the Commonwealth welterweight title in April.

Laing, aged 36, has signed an agreement with Micky Duff to retire after his next defeat. He made the agreement after losing the British title to Del Bryan in January and Duff admitted: "I urged him to retire but he asked me for another chance and I agreed on condition he signed the agreement. I'm not prepared to see Kirkland simply become an opponent for other fighters."

SKIING: PETER Young, aged 35, from Dagenham, sponsored by Samuel Montagu, won a gold medal in the 30km cross-country event in the European championships for the visually handicapped in Trento in Italy.

RESULTS: 10km: 1, V Copinksi (USSR), 35min 09sec. British: 5, P Young, 39:05sec. 30km: 1, Young, 1hr 37min 09sec; 2, B Bogdanov (USSR), 1:39:38; 3, Copinski, 1:39:50.

TABLE TENNIS: Iran will take part in the world championships next month for the first time since they competed in Birmingham in 1977. Iran will send a five-strong team to the championships in Chiba, Japan, from April 24 to May 6.

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SPORT

Taylor promotes Sharpe option

By STUART JONES, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

LEE Sharpe, voted best young players of the year on Sunday by his peers, has achieved additional recognition from the England manager. The Manchester United winger, unexpectedly promoted from the Under-21 party, is the first teenager to be included in the senior squad since John Barnes eight years ago.

Graham Taylor had insisted that he would summon no replacements for the injured Chris Waddle. Yet, without a winger apart from Barnes, he had already decided that he would invite the 19-year-old to train at Bisham Abbey rather than with the juniors at Windsor and Eton.

The public deception was created for Sharpe's own sake. "I wanted him to get over winning the award before telling him," Taylor said. "We needed someone else who is comfortable in the wide position, and, at the risk of weakening the Under-21 side, I've gone for him."

It may not be the last of Taylor's surprises. Not until an hour before the start of the first European championship qualifying tie against the Republic of Ireland four months ago did he reveal that Cowans would be playing in midfield for England instead of Gascoigne.

It is conceivable, albeit improbable, that Taylor will today announce that his attack wil feature Sharpe, whom he describes as "still a baby". The Irish would be startled by the unforeseen prospect of the youngster's explosive speed on the left flank.

Taylor, who is concerned that Barnes is being distracted by his contractual discussions with Liverpool, would almost certainly have selected Waddle, had he been available. Only on the grounds of Sharpe's inexperience is the England manager likely to revert to the former Watford winger.

Nobody should doubt Sharpe's talent. Robson, his club captain, believes that he is the most exciting teenager to have emerged since Gascoigne. "He's not the same type of player, but he has the ability, he's really fast, he's maintained a high standard, and he is a good team player."

Sharpe, bought from Torquay United for a fee valued at £180,000 three years ago, appeared initially at full back. He admits that, although he did not relish the role, it was the only way of commanding a regular position in United's first team. Crucially, though, it broadened his education.

"When he gets in to defensive positions, he knows what to do," Robson said. "He uses the ball sensibly, and doesn't do anything silly."

Alex Ferguson, the United manager, first used him as a winger last October against Arsenal in the League fixture at Old Trafford, infamous for the brawl.

Initially employed specifically to contain the danger posed by Dixon, now an England colleague, Sharpe not only retained his place, but developed rapidly. He has since effectively lifted United in to the final of the Rumbelows Cup and the semi-final of the European Cup Winners' Cup.

Robson recalled the night Sharpe "slaughtered" Nicol, a more competent full back than those available to Jack Charlton, when United knocked Liverpool out of the Rumbelows Cup. In the next round, he confirmed his growing stature by scoring three glorious goals in the 6-2 victory at Arsenal.

"He has the right attitude, and he's got a big future in the game," Robson said. Having agreed last month to stay at Old Trafford until 1996, Sharpe himself did not foresee that a senior international opening would so soon follow.

Taylor, who was prepared to express "a feeling that we will win", is unlikely otherwise to make unexpected changes. Woods will probably reclaim the place taken by Seaman against Cameroon.

The Irish, unbeaten by England since their last visit to Wembley in 1986, are certain to pursue their characteristically direct and aerial approach. The natural method of counteracting the ploy would be to line up with three central defenders. They promise to be Walker, Wright, and Adams.

Pearce, the most improved England representative over the last year, and probably Dixon would be able to augment a midfield containing the refreshed Platt and Robson. The subtlety of Beardsley, operating behind the front line, would complete an appealing and balanced formation.

Other team news, page 36

Man of the moment: Sharpe, voted young player of the year, in training yesterday

Charlton delays Irish selection

By PETER BALL

JACK Charlton yesterday paid his England opposite number a rare compliment. The Republic of Ireland manager is so concerned about Graham Taylor's tactical acumen that he is waiting to see the England team announced before revealing his own hand.

This is an unusual, almost unprecedented move by the bluff Charlton, who usually follows a policy of letting the other team worry about Ireland, pretending that what opponents do is of little concern to him. A crucial European Nations qualifying match before a full house at Wembley has modified that approach.

"Graham picked a specific team for the game in Dublin," Charlton said after his squad trained yesterday afternoon. "And I want to see if he is going to do that this time before I announce our team.

"If he plays it the way I think he will, I know my own team; but if he does what I think he might, then I might have to change it – it'll be one positional change. I don't care what team he picks, but I need to know what his team is so that I can give people their jobs."

Charlton, however, was quick to reject suggestions that England's injuries had undermined Taylor's hand. "Half the population don't think Chris Waddle should be in the team anyway, and they see Gazza is a bit unstable at the moment, so they are not sure whether he should play," Charlton said. "Graham Taylor still has a lot more players than we have."

The Ireland team has suffered no late withdrawals and the manager will at least be able to pick from a full squad, apart from the absent Whelan. The thought of returning to Wembley as a participant for the first time since he played for Leeds United in their 1-0 1972 FA Cup victory over Arsenal is clearly exciting Charlton and he insisted that the same mood is motivating his team.

"I even had a couple of complaints from managers who said their players hadn't tried too hard at the weekend because they knew they were coming here this week and they all want to play" Charlton said. "Everyone wants to play at Wembley, but I won't enjoy the occasion until afterwards, if we have got a result."

It is doubtful whether Charlton or his players are as excited at the prospect as one visitor to the stadium yesterday. Hugh O'Callaghan, one of the Birmingham Six and an ardent Aston Villa supporter, turned up to meet the team. It was his first visit to the stadium since 1957 when he saw Villa beat Manchester United in an FA Cup final.

Border suffers Richardson and Haynes

From JOHN WOODCOCK IN GEORGETOWN

AUSTRALIA spent the first part of the third day of the second Test match against West Indies trying to put an end to the overnight partnership between Haynes and Richardson, and the rest of it trying to limit the damage it had done. Half an hour after tea West Indies were 464 for five.

By the time Haynes was out he and Richardson had added 297 and collared the Australian attack to such an extent that Border had been driven to bringing himself on to bowl after only 70 minutes.

Hughes's ten overs – yesterday's four without a slip – had cost him 71 runs. Like many captains before him in this part of the world, Border must have been feeling powerless to stem the tide, when he himself had Haynes, propping forward, caught by silly point, the only fielder not in a defensive position.

A more incongruous end to such a commanding partnership it would be hard to imagine. But it showed that the ball would turn, albeit slowly, and that a pair of accomplished spinners could have been of a good deal more use than those whose trade is seam and swing. Haynes's hundred was his sixteenth for West Indies, Richardson's his twelfth, and their partnership is the third highest for West Indies' second wicket. The 446 which Sobers and Hunte added against Pakistan at Kingston in 1958 is still top of the tree.

Richardson played so well that one begins to wonder whether, after all, he is destined for true greatness. Coming from Antigua, he has always had to bear comparison with Richards, that island's king, and that has been hard on him. But Richardson has established himself now at No. 3, the best of all positions from which to aim for the galaxy, and, for the moment anyway, he is playing with the confidence to make it.

No sooner had he taken guard on Sunday afternoon than he was throwing the bat at Australia's faster bowlers with almost complete abandon. Of the world's leading batsmen, only he and Richards never wear a helmet, a sign of their attitude as much as of the times.

Haynes was happy enough to let his younger partner have the starring role. His own hundred, therefore, was soon followed by Richardson's 150, reached with three fours in an over off Hughes.

When Border took the ball only Whitney, when he went round the wicket, had given the batsmen any cause for concern. But in his third over Border brought Australia relief. Haynes had faced 211 balls in 318 minutes and hit 17 fours.

Loosening up in the first over after lunch, before taking a new ball, McDermott had Richardson leg-before, aiming to leg. He had hit 26 fours and two sixes in 344 minutes, off 242 balls. It was his seventh Test innings at Bourda, the others including one of 185 against New Zealand and one of 194 against India. His departure, though, was but a temporary respite for Australia.

Hooper was playing most stylishly and by mid-afternoon, with Richards launching into Matthews, no one was in greater danger than the spectators in the trees outside the ground. They watched one straight drive pass like a missile over their heads on its way into the Ministry of Agriculture, 50 yards behind them.

Then, just before tea, Hooper was out much as Haynes had been, and in the first over afterwards Richards was bowled by grubber from Matthews.

AUSTRALIA: First innings 348 (G R Marsh 94, M E Waugh 71, I A Healy 53; B P Patterson 4 for 80).

WEST INDIES: First innings	
D L Haynes c Waugh b Border	111
C G Greenidge lbw b McDermott	2
R B Richardson lbw b McDermott	182
*I V A Richards b Matthews	50
C L Hooper c Waugh b Matthews	62
A L Logie not out	31
†P J L Dujon not out	13
Extras (b 5, lb 11, nb 21)	37
Total (5 wkts)	488

M D Marshall, C E L Ambrose, B P Patterson and C A Walsh to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-10, 2-297, 3-353, 4-443.

Umpires: C Cumberbatch and C Duncan.

RFU asks players to discuss ruling

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

THE Rugby Football Union (RFU) will seek a meeting with representatives of the England squad as soon as possible in the wake of last week's International Rugby Football Board (IRFB) decisions over the amateur regulations. The players will hope to establish whether the board's annual meeting has made any difference to their commercial aspirations.

The RFU believes that its stand over the controversial regulation 4:3:2 was vindicated by the board's amendment last week, which forbade personal appearances for reward at functions specifically related to matches. However, players can still be paid for speaking at rugby club dinners and the discretionary powers given to each union in the exercise of the regulations remain a thorn in the RFU side.

"The president is very keen we should sit down with the players as soon as we can," Dudley Wood, the RFU secretary, said yesterday. "No undertaking has been given to the England squad, but what we have said is that we are conscious of their concern that they should not be disadvantaged in comparison with other countries."

The union's executive committee will not meet until April 19 to formally discuss the report of their IRFB representatives, who include Denis Easby, now chairman of the board's amateurism committee and the man responsible for overseeing how England enforce the amateur regulations. His next task is to ask each of the eight senior unions on the board for the name, by May 31, of their regulations officer – in effect the amateurism watchdog.

The board will have a standing committee composed of Easby, Sir Ewart Bell (Ireland), and Russ Thomas (New Zealand) as a reference point for queries on the regulations. It is hoped that by November a uniform list of permitted and non-permitted activities, based on a list drawn up by the RFU, will have been agreed. "We are desperately anxious to avoid collision with the players," Easby said.

Wood described the events of last week's meeting as "completely predictable. Any discretionary element on something as fundamental as amateurism is very worrying. You will get different interpretations and rulings, which is difficult for everyone to handle."

Differences in interpretation of advertising opportunities have already arisen, as between England and their Scottish and Welsh counterparts, and it is this which represents the major concern to the players who won the Grand Slam and whose profile will never be higher – unless they win the World Cup. In that respect, of course, there is a binding participation agreement for the period of the tournament this autumn, but not for what may happen immediately after its conclusion.

The International Board has approved the reinstatement of 19 former rugby league players, including three who played international rugby for England, Mike Leadbetter (Broughton Park), Bob Mordell (Rosslyn Park) and Steve Redfern (Leicester), and Ray Hopkins, who played scrum-half for Maesteg, Wales and the British Isles before turning professional in 1971.

NZ may tour S Africa

WELLINGTON – The New Zealand All Blacks have a better than evens chance next year of making their first tour of South Africa since 1976, according to the New Zealand rugby football union chairman, Eddie Tonks, yesterday.

But administrators, watching progress towards scrapping racial segregation, might not commit themselves until early 1992, he warned.

Sentiments endorsed by Reardon's struggle

RAY Reardon was fighting an uphill battle at the Guild Hall, Preston last night in his attempt to qualify for the final stages of the Embassy World Championship for probably the last time (Steve Acteson writes).

Reardon took the last two frames of the first session but was still 6-3 behind to Jason Prince, a first season professional from Northern Ireland. He needed a further seven frames and four victories in all this week to join the starting line-up for the finals at the Crucible Theatre, Sheffield on April 20.

Reardon, whose unorthodox style took him to six world titles in the 1970s, has entered none of this summer's qualifying events for next season's ten world-ranking tournaments. The Welshman, aged 58, prefers to honour a lucrative and long-standing contract to coach and serve exhibition needs at a holiday camp. He had said before the qualifying event began: "The new qualifying system is ridiculous. There should be some sort of exemption for former world champions." Few would argue with that sentiment.

BC

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South Africa edges closer to return to world stage

From DAVID MILLER IN CAPE TOWN

SOUTH African sport moved closer towards a return to internationalism yesterday, following discussions between President F W de Klerk and the visiting International Olympic Committee delegation. Much depends on the talks that it is hoped to hold with Nelson Mandela. It would be false optimism to suppose that the situation does not remain on a knife edge.

Two concerns were apparent in President de Klerk's attitude yesterday: an intense wish for South Africa to be included in the Olympic Games in Barcelona next year, and also that if the apartheid laws are erased in June, the IOC will not then move the goalposts, demanding fresh social/political adjustments which are not the province of sport.

Judge Keba M'baye, a recently retired vice-president of the International Courts at the Hague and chairman of the delegation, was diplomatically reluctant to be drawn into premature views. Kevan Gosper, an IOC vice-president, expressed moderate optimism for South Africa's readmission by 1992 rather than 1996. "We've got to manage the South African timetable," Gosper said, "and that could be possible."

The South African political situation will not be wholly clear by the time the IOC holds its session in Birmingham in June; and it could be necessary to obtain approval from the 90 members on a provisional basis of executive board proposals dependent upon the jigsaw falling into place. "It would be a pity for South Africa to have to wait another four years for the want of a period of a few weeks' administration," Gosper said.

Jean-Claude Ganga, president of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa and long-time anti-apartheid advocate against South Africa, stressed the need for caution. "We have heard one half of the story, and I'm not prepared to give an opinion yet," Ganga said. "We need to hear what Mr Mandela has to say, provided we are able to arrange a meeting.

Mr de Klerk, a former minister for sport, made repeated references to "the new South Africa".

The radius of sports morality and political conscience cannot embrace more than proper integration within sport. Gosper and Francois Carrard, the IOC director-general, confirmed that the IOC was committed to its present stance and would *not* move the goalposts: that the IOC's terms for South African readmission were abolition of apartheid and the unification of sports bodies.

"We're not going to get a perfect position on unity," Gosper admitted. "We therefore have to try to avoid exactly defining that position. We know that whatever our decision when we leave here on Wednesday, it must have the support of Africa."

The IOC delegation made it abundantly clear its successive meetings with Dr A J G Oosthuizen, chairman of the joint parliamentary committee on manpower and national education, with L A Pienaar, the minister of education, and with Mr de Klerk, that it was essential to preserve the moratorium on international sports visits to South Africa.

This will be the crux of this morning's debate with the ten representatives of the Interim National Olympic Committee of South Africa: two each from the National Olympic and Sports Congress, the (old) South African Olympic Committee, the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee, Sacos and the Confederation of South African Sports (Cosas). It was Cosas, the predominantly white-led body representing over 100 sports, which broke away from INOCSA last weekend because their members could not guarantee to maintain the moratorium.

Mr de Klerk was warned by Judge M'Baye that if South African sport could not hold on to domestic unity, especially by INOCSA, then the IOC might have to walk away empty-handed, unable to make any resolution.

Also evident was the extent of Mr de Klerk's goodwill, of his awareness that international sport can hold one of the keys to a stable South African future. The president who is attempting to liberalise one of the world's most reactionary nations spoke of sport's "electric effect on nation-building".

The cynics may see in that comment a threatening possibility of manipulation of people through sport. The present situation is one in which, I think, the president has to be given the benefit of the doubt.

Woosnam thinks he is best

By MITCHELL PLATTS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

BY WINNING The Players Championship, which starts at Sawgrass in Florida on Thursday, Ian Woosnam can take over from Nick Faldo as No. 1 in the Sony world rankings.

With his win on Sunday in the USF & G Classic in New Orleans, Woosnam moved into third place behind Faldo and José-Maria Olazábal. Thus, three Europeans head the rankings for the first time since April 1986, when Sandy Lyle won the Greater Greensboro Open and ranked third behind Bernhard Langer and Severiano Ballesteros.

Woosnam already believes he is the best golfer in the world. "I'm at the age now where I should be in my prime," he said. "I came over here to win and right now I think that I am the best golfer in the world. I've won two of the three tournaments I have entered this year and I really feel that I have been underestimated."

Tony Greer, of the International Management Group, said: "By winning, both Ian and José-Maria could secure enough points to go top, although Nick would probably have to finish outside the top ten. But Nick will need to finish second in the Masters in two weeks' time to maintain his points average."

Lyle lies 52nd, six places ahead of Steve Richardson, who has moved up 72 places.

SONY WORLD RANKINGS: 1, N Faldo (GB), 19.28pts average; 2, J-M Olazábal (Sp), 17.88; 3, I Woosnam (GB), 17.79; 4, G Norman (Aus), 16.67; 5, P Stewart (US), 13.31; 6, P Azinger (US), 11.12; 7, M McNulty (Zim), 10.10; 8, C Strange (US), 9.83; 9, S Ballesteros (Sp), 9.34; 10, B Langer (Ger), 9.33.

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